



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

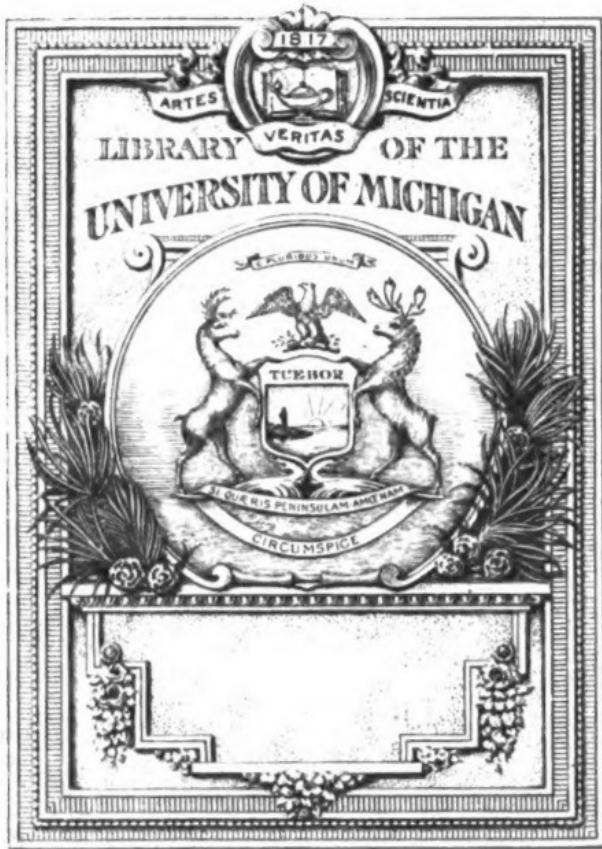
- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>

The
communings
with himself of
Marcus
Aurelius ...

Marcus Aurelius
(Emperor of Rome)



888
A98
± H3

THE LOEB CLASSICAL LIBRARY

EDITED BY

E. CAPPS, PH.D., LL.D. T. E. PAGE, LITT.D. W. H. D. ROUSE, LITT.D.

**MARCUS AURELIUS
ANTONINUS**



*RECEIVING GERMAN PRISONERS IN THE FIELD.
PANEL FROM TRIUMPHAL ARCH.*

NOTE

This is one of two
reliefs, erected on the
quest of German
Roman captives brought
before the Emperor.
His hand shews his
rare and sad. Behi.
Bassaeus Rufus. Th
effective. This panel
of Santa Martina on th
on the first landing o
Rome.



GERMAN PRISONERS IN
RELIEF FROM TRIUMPHAL ARCH.

THE COM
MAP

EL

TOGETHE

A REV

NOTE

As the Speeches and Sayings at the end of the book cannot definitely be attributed to Marcus Aurelius it was thought advisable to print them in smaller type in order to distinguish them from his authentic work.

ERRATA

- p. 112, 3 lines from end : inverted commas should begin before $\dot{\nu}\pi\delta\tau\eta\varsigma$.
- p. 119, last line : *for What read In what.*
- p. 213, 5 lines from end : *for ad Caes. ii. read ad Caes. iii.*
- p. 339, l. 14 : *for by individual read with individual.*
- p. 376, l. 9 : *for πpolovta read πpo<σ>lovta.*
- p. 402, l. 26 : *for Ades p. read Adesp.*



THE COMMUNINGS WITH HIMSELF OF
MARCUS AURELIUS
ANTONINUS
EMPEROR OF ROME

TOGETHER WITH HIS SPEECHES AND SAYINGS

A REVISED TEXT AND A TRANSLATION
INTO ENGLISH BY
C. R. HAINES, M.A., F.S.A.



LONDON : WILLIAM HEINEMANN
NEW YORK : G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

• MCMXVI

ΕΙΣ ΒΙΒΛΟΝ ΜΑΡΚΟΥ¹

Εἰ λύπης κρατέειν ἔθέλεις,
τήνδε μάκαιραν ἀνακτύσσων
βίβλουν ἐπέρχεο ἐνδυκέως,
ἥς ὑπὸ γνώμην δλβίστην
ῥεῖά κεν ὅψεαι ἐσσομένων
ὅντων τ' ἡδὲ παροιχομένων
τερπωλήν τ' ἀνίην τε <λέγων>
καπνοῦ μηδὲν ἀρειοτέρην.

If thou would'st master care and pain,
Unfold this book and read and read again
Its blessed leaves, whereby thou soon shalt see
The past, the present, and the days to be
With opened eyes ; and all delight, all grief,
Shall be like smoke, as empty and as brief.

C. R. H.

Μόνος βασιλέων φιλοσοφίαν οὐ λόγοις οὕτε δογμάτων γνώσεσι,
σεμνῷ δὲ κήθει καὶ σωφρόνι βίῳ ἐπιστράσσει.—HERODIAN, i. 2, § 4.

Οὐδὲν αὐτὸν ἔξεβάσατο ἔξω τι τῶν ἁντοῦ ἡθῶν πρᾶξαι.—DIO
CASSIUS 71. 30, § 2.

'Ο λογισμὸς αὐτοῦ θεῖος καὶ ὡς ἀληθῶς ἀνωθεν ἔχων τὸ παρδεῖγμα καὶ πρὸς ἐκείνην δρῶν τὴν πολιτείαν.—ABISTIDES, *Paneg. in Cyz.* § 427 (Jebb).

¹ This epigram is found at the end of the Vatican MS. and also in the *Anthologia Palatina*, ii. p. 603 (Jacobs). Possibly by Arethas (see P. Maas in *Hermes* xlviii. p. 295 ff.).

PREFACE

THE Greek text of this book is often difficult and in many places corrupt beyond cure, but no trouble has been spared to make the translation as accurate and idiomatic as possible. I have preferred to err, if error it be, on the side of over-faithfulness, because the physiognomy of the book owes so much to the method and style in which it is written. Its homeliness, abruptness, and want of literary finish (though it does not lack rhetoric) are part of the character of the work, and we alter this character by rewriting it into the terse, epigrammatic, staccato style so much in vogue at the present day. Another reason for literalness is that it makes a comparison with the Greek, printed beside it, easier for the unlearned. When a work has been translated so often as this one, it is difficult to be original without deviating further from the text, but I have not borrowed a phrase, scarcely a word, from any of my predecessors. If unconscious coincidences appear, it remains only to say *Pereant*

PREFACE

qui ante nos nostra dixerint! Numerous references (such as have proved so invaluable for the due understanding of the Bible) and good indices have always been greatly wanted in the translations of this work, and I have taken pains to supply the want. For a better understanding of the character of Marcus I have added to the *Thoughts* translations of his *Speeches* and *Sayings*, with a Note on his attitude towards the Christians (in which I am glad to find myself in complete agreement with M. Lemercier). A companion volume on the Correspondence with Fronto will contain all his extant Letters. In conclusion my best thanks are due to Messrs. Teubner for permission to use their text as the basis of the revised one here printed, to Professors Leopold and Schenkl for advice and help on various points, and, last but not least, to my predecessors in the translation of this “Golden Book.”

C. R. HAINES.

GODALMING, 1915.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
PREFACE	vii
INTRODUCTION	xi
STOICISM	xxi
BOOK I	2
BOOK II	26
BOOK III	44
BOOK IV	66
BOOK V	98
BOOK VI	130
BOOK VII	164
BOOK VIII	198
BOOK IX	230
BOOK X	260
BOOK XI	292
BOOK XII	320
SPEECHES	346
SAYINGS	359
NOTE ON CHRISTIANS	381
INDEX OF MATTERS	393
INDEX OF PROPER NAMES	402
GLOSSARY OF GREEK TERMS	409

INTRODUCTION

It is not known how this small but priceless book of private devotional memoranda¹ came to be preserved for posterity. But the writer that in it puts away all desire for after-fame has by means of it attained to imperishable remembrance. As Rénan has said, “tous, tant que nous sommes, nous portons au cœur le deuil de Marc Aurèle comme s'il était mort d'hier.” Internal evidence proves that the author was Marcus Antoninus, emperor of Rome 7 March 161 to 17 March 180, and notes added in one MS between Books I and II and II and III shew that the second Book was composed when the writer was among the Quadi on the Gran, and the third at Carnuntum (Haimburg). The headquarters of Marcus in the war against the barbarians were at Carnuntum 171–173, and we know that the so-called “miraculous victory” against the Quadi was in 174.² But Professor Schenkl has given good reasons for thinking that the first book was really written last and prefixed as a sort of introduction to the rest of the work.³ It was probably written as a whole, while the other books consist mostly of disconnected jottings. The style

¹ Marcus may be referring in Bk. III. 14 to this his own work as *ὑπομνήματα*.

² See Dio, 71. 8.

³ For a discussion of the chronology of the work, see *Journal of Philology*, vol. xxiii., No. 66, 1914.

INTRODUCTION

throughout is abrupt and concise, and words have occasionally to be supplied to complete the sense. There is here no reasoned treatise on Ethics, no exposition of Stoic Philosophy, such as the *sectarum ardua ac perocculta*¹ or the *ordo praeceptionum*,² on which Marcus is said to have discoursed before he set out the last time for the war in 178, but we have a man and a ruler taking counsel with himself, noting his own shortcomings, excusing those of others, and " whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honourable, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are pure," exhorting his soul to think on these things. Never were words written more transparently single-hearted and sincere. They were not merely written, they were lived. Those who accuse Marcus of pharisaism wilfully mistake his character and betray their own. Very noticeable is the delicacy of the author's mind and the restrained energy of his style. He eschews all the 'windflowers' of speech, but the simplicity, straightforwardness, and dignity of his thoughts lend an imperial nobility to his expression of them. There is a certain choiceness and even poetry in his words which amply condone an occasional roughness and technicality of phrase. Striking images are not infrequent, and such a passage as Book II, 2 is unique in ancient literature. This is not a book of confessions, and comparatively few allusions to personal incidents are to be found except in the first book, while an air of complete aloofness and detachment pervades the whole. The author expressly disclaims all δρυμύτης or originality and

¹ Victor *de Caes.* xvi. 9.

² Vulc. Gallicanus *Vit. Av. Cass.* iii. 7.

INTRODUCTION

acuteness of intellect, and there is a good deal of repetition unavoidable in the nature of the work, for "line upon line" and "precept upon precept" are required in all moral teaching.

Of his two great Stoic predecessors Marcus has no affinity with Seneca. He certainly knew all about him and they have many thoughts¹ in common, but Seneca's rhetorical flamboyance, his bewildering contradictions, the glaring divergence between his profession and his practice have no counterpart in Marcus. Epictetus the Phrygian slave was his true spiritual father, but we do not find in the Emperor the somewhat rigid didacticism and spiritual dogmatism of his predecessor. Marcus is humbler and not so confident. The hardness and arrogance of Stoicism are softened in him by an infusion of Platonism and other philosophies.² With the Peripatetics he admits the inequality of faults. His humanity will not cast out compassion as an emotion of the heart.³ His is no cut and dried creed, for he often wavers and is inconsistent. Call not his teaching ineffectual. He is not trying to teach anyone. He is reasoning with his own soul and championing its cause against the persuasions and impulses of the flesh. How far did he succeed? "By nature a good man," says Dio, "his education and the moral training he imposed upon himself

¹ Marcus never quotes him by name, and though there are plenty of similarities between the two writers in thought, and even in expression, it is not certain that there is a single case of borrowing. Most of the resemblances are based on commonplaces; see, however, Sen. *Ep.* 77 = vi. 2; *Ep.* 65 = xi. 10; *de Prov.* 4 = iv. 1; *Ep.* 36 = v. 18; *de Ben.* vii. 31 = xi. 18, § 9; *Ep.* 74 = v. 8, § 3; *Ep.* 28 = v. 16.

² Even Epicurus is mentioned with approval, as he is also by Seneca. ³ *cp.* Epict. iii. 24, 43; *Man.* 16, etc.

INTRODUCTION

made him a far better one.¹ "As was natural to one who had beautified his soul with every virtuous quality he was innocent of all wrong-doing."² The wonderful revelation here given of the *ἀσκησις* of the spiritual athlete in the contests of life is full of inspiration still even for the modern world. It has been and is a source of solace and strength to thousands, and has helped to mould the characters of more than one leader of men, such as Frederick the Great,³ Maximilian of Bavaria, Captain John Smith, the 'saviour of Virginia,' and that noble Christian soldier, General Gordon. It was but the other day, on the fiftieth anniversary of Italian Unity, that the King of Italy, speaking⁴ on the Capitol, referred to Marcus "as the sacred and propitiatory image of that cult of moral and civil law which our Fatherland wishes to follow," a reference received with particular applause by those who heard it.

Whoever rescued the MS of the "Thoughts" on the death of their author in 180, whether it was that noble Roman, Pompeianus, the son-in-law of Marcus, or the high-minded Victorinus, his lifelong friend, we seem to hear an echo of its teaching in the dying words of Cornificia, his possibly last surviving daughter, when put to death by Caracalla in 215: "O wretched little soul of mine, imprisoned in an unworthy body, go forth, be free!"⁵ It was doubtless known to Chryseros the freedman and nomenclator of Marcus who wrote a history of Rome to the death of his patron,⁶ and to the Emperor

¹ Dio 71. 35, § 6. ² Aristides *ad Reg.* § 106 (Jebb).

³ Who, however, in the field of morality cannot be said to have profited by its lessons.

⁴ March, 1911.

⁵ See Dio, *Fragm.* Dindorf v. 214.

⁶ Theoph. *ad Autol.* iii. 27.

INTRODUCTION

Gordian I., for the latter in his youth, soon after the Emperor's death, wrote an epic poem on Pius and Marcus. He also married Fabia Orestilla, the latter's granddaughter through Fadilla (probably) and Claudius Severus. As their eldest son Gordian II. had sixty children, the blood of Marcus was soon widely diffused.

The first direct mention of the work is about 350 A.D. in the Orations of the pagan philosopher Themistius, who speaks of the παραγγέλματα (precepts) of Marcus. Then for 550 years we lose sight of the book entirely, until, about 900, the compiler of the dictionary, which goes by the name of Suidas, reveals the existence of a MS of it by making some thirty quotations, taken from books I, III, IV, V, IX, and XI.¹ He calls the book (*συγγραφή*) an “ἀγωγή (*a directing*) of his own life by Marcus the Emperor in twelve books.” About the same time Arethas, a Cappadocian bishop, writing to his metropolitan, speaks of the scarcity of this μεγαλωφελέστατον βιβλίον, and apparently sends him a copy of it.² He also refers to it three times in scholia to Lucian, calling it τὰ εἰς ἑαυτὸν ἡθικά. Two similar references are found in the scholia to Dio Chrysostom, possibly by the same Arethas.

Again a silence of 250 years, after which Tzetzes, a grammarian of Constantinople, quotes passages from Books IV. and V. attributing them to Marcus. About 150 years later (1300 A.D.) the ecclesiastical historian, Nicephorus Callistus (iii. 31) writes that Marcus “composed a book of instruction for his son, full of universal (*κοσμικῆς, ? secular*) experience and wisdom.” About this very time Planudes, a monk

¹ See Index, under “Suidas.” ² See A. Sonny in *Philol.* 54. 182f.

INTRODUCTION

of Constantinople, may have been engaged in compiling the anthology of extracts from various authors, including Marcus and Aelian, which has come down to us in twenty-five or more MSS dating from the fourteenth to the sixteenth century.¹ They are practically of no help in re-establishing the text,² and contain in all forty-four extracts from books IV.-XII.

Our present text is based almost entirely upon two MSS, the Codex Palatinus (P) first printed in 1558 by Xylander but now lost, which contains the whole work, and the Codex Vaticanus 1950 (A) from which about forty-two lines have dropped out by accidental omissions here and there. Two other MSS give some independent help to the text, but they are incomplete, the Codex Darmstadtinus 2773 (D) with 112 extracts from books I.-IX. and Codex Parisinus 319 (C) with twenty-nine extracts from Books I.-IV., with seven other MSS derived from it or from the same source. Apart from all these there is but one other MS (Monacensis 323) which contains only fourteen very short fragments from Books II., III., IV., and VII.

Translations of this Book have been made into Latin, English, French, Italian, German, Spanish, Norse, Russian, Czech, Polish and Persian. In England alone twenty-six editions of the work appeared in the seventeenth century, fifty-eight in the eighteenth, eighty-one in the nineteenth, and in the twentieth up to 1908 thirty more.³

The English translations are as follows.—

1. *Meric Casaubon*.—“Marcus Aurelius Antoninus. His Meditations concerning himself : Treating of a

¹ One (Vat. 2231) has just come to light.

² Except Cod. Monacensis 2 = C. Hoeschelianus.

³ See J. W. Legg, *A Bibliography of Marcus Aurelius*, 1908.

INTRODUCTION

Naturall Man's Happinesse ; wherein it consisteth, and of the Meanes to attain unto it. Translated out of the original Greeke with Notes by Meric Casaubon B.D., London, 1634."

This, the first English translation, albeit involved and periphrastic, is not without dignity or scholarship, though James Thomson in 1747 says that "it is everywhere rude and unpolished and often mistakes the author's meaning," while the Foulis Press Translators of 1742 find fault with its "intricate and antiquated style." It may be conveniently read in Dr. Rouse's new edition of 1900, which also contains some excellent translations of letters between Fronto and Marcus.

2. *Jeremy Collier*.—"The Emperor Marcus Antoninus His Conversation with Himself. Translated into English by Jeremy Collier M.A., London 1701." A recent edition of it by Alice Zimmern is in the Camelot Series, but it hardly deserved the honour. We may fairly say of it that it is too colloquial. James Thomson in 1747 speaks of it as "a very coarse copy of an excellent original," and as "bearing so faint a resemblance to the original in a great many places as scarcely to seem taken from it." R. Graves in 1792 remarks that it "abounds with so many vulgarities, anilities and even ludicrous expressions . . . that one cannot now read it with any patience." The comment of G. Long in 1862 is much the same, but it called forth an unexpected champion of the older translator in Matthew Arnold, who says: "Most English people, who knew Marcus Aurelius before Mr. Long appeared as his introducer, knew him through Jeremy Collier. And the acquaintance of a man like Marcus Aurelius is such an imperishable

INTRODUCTION

benefit that one can never lose a peculiar sense of obligation towards the man who confers it. Apart from this however, Jeremy Collier's version deserves respect for its genuine spirit and vigour, the spirit and vigour of the age of Dryden. His warmth of feeling gave to his style an impetuosity and rhythm which from Mr. Long's style are absent." The real defect of Collier as a translator, adds Arnold, is his imperfect acquaintance with Greek.

3. *James Moor and Thomas Hutcheson*.—“The Meditations of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus. Newly translated from the Greek with notes.” Glasgow : The Foulis Press, 1742. Certainly the best translation, previous to Long's, for accuracy and diction, and superior to that in spirit. Dr. Rendall (1898) praises it as “the choicest alike in form and contents.” R. Graves, however, in 1792, while allowing its fidelity, had pronounced it “unnecessarily literal,” and shewing a “total neglect of elegance and harmony of style.” A very satisfactory revision of this translation appeared in 1902, made by G. W. Chrystal.

4. *Richard Graves*.—“The Meditations of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus. A New Translation from the Greek Original, with notes.” By R. Graves, M.A., Rector of Claverton, Somerset. Bath, 1792.

A fairly accurate and smooth version of no especial distinction, but superior to most of its predecessors. An abbreviated edition of this was published at Stourport without any date by N. Swaine with the title : “The Meditations of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus Philosophus collated with and abridged from the best translations.”

INTRODUCTION

5. *George Long*.—“The Thoughts of the Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus.” Translated by George Long. London, 1862. This may be looked upon as in some sense the “authorized version,” and it is from it that most people know their Marcus Aurelius. For nearly forty years it was master of the field. M. Arnold, though finding fault with the translator as not idiomatic or simple enough and even pedantic, yet gives him full credit for soundness, precision, and general excellence in his translation. The author tells us that he deliberately chose a ruder style as better suited to express the character of the original, and he was right, for in spite of Arnold’s dictum to the contrary the book of Marcus has a “distinct physiognomy,” and here, more than is usually the case, *le style c'est l'homme*.

6. *Hastings Crossley*.—“The Fourth Book of the Meditations of Marcus Aurelius.” A revised text with Translation and commentary by Hastings Crossley, M.A., London, 1882. This specimen makes us regret that the author did not publish the whole version which he tells us was in MS. The book contains an interesting appendix on the relations of Fronto and Marcus.

7. *G. H. Rendall*.—“Marcus Aurelius Antoninus to Himself: An English Translation with Introductory Study on Stoicism and the Last of the Stoics.” By Gerald H. Rendall, M.A., Litt.D., London, 1898. A second edition with a different introduction was published in 1901.

This version has been pronounced by many critics the best rendering of the *Thoughts*. Its accuracy, ability, and liveliness are unquestionable.

8. *John Jackson*.—“The Meditations of Marcus

INTRODUCTION

Aurelius Antoninus." Translated by John Jackson. With an introduction by Charles Bigg. Oxford, 1906.

This version is the newest comer, and is a worthy presentment of the *Thoughts*. There are useful notes, but some very bold alterations of the text have been followed in the English version. The book would have been more acceptable without the introduction by Dr. Bigg, which gives a most unfair and wholly inaccurate view of the life and character of Marcus.

Besides the above versions there are several abridged translations of the *Thoughts*, which need not be enumerated here. But the two chief ones seem to be by B. E. Smith, published by the Century Company, New York, 1899, and by J. E. Wilson, London, 1902.

STOICISM

Stoicism was so called from the Colonnade¹ at Athens, where Zeno about 300 b.c. first taught its doctrines. More religious in character than any other Greek philosophy, it brought a new moral force into the world. It put intellectual speculation more into the background, and carried the moral attitude of the Cynics further into the domain of right conduct. Oriental fervour was in it grafted on Greek acumen, for Zeno was a Phoenician Greek of Cyprus, and Chrysippus, the St. Paul who defined and established² Stoicism, a Cilician like the Apostle.

In spite of its origin Stoicism proved wonderfully adapted to the practical Roman character, and under the tyranny of the early Caesars it formed the only impregnable fortress³ of liberty for the noblest Romans. It reached its culmination, and found its highest exponents as a living creed in the courtier Seneca, the Phrygian slave Epictetus, and the emperor Marcus Antoninus.

Stoic philosophy consisted of Logic, Physics, and Ethics.⁴ Logic, which comprised Dialectics and

¹ Στοὰ ποικίλη.

² εἰ μὴ γάρ ἦν Χρύσιππος, οὐκ ἀν ἦν Στοῖ, an anonymous verse quoted by Diog. Laert. *Chrys.* 5.

³ viii. 41, 48.

⁴ viii. 13.

STOICISM

Rhetoric, was the necessary instrument of all speculation;¹ but Marcus found no satisfaction in either branch of it, nor in such Physics as dealt with Meteorology.²

The key-note of Stoicism was *Life according to Nature*, and Marcus was converted to the pursuit of this possibly by Sextus the Boeotian.³ By "Nature" was meant the controlling Reason of the Universe.⁴ A study of Physics was necessary for a proper understanding of the Cosmos and our position in it, and thus formed the scientific basis of philosophy; but it was regarded as strictly subordinate, and merely a means to an end.

Though he confesses to some disappointment in his progress therein,⁵ there is no doubt that Marcus was well versed in Stoic Physics. Fully recognizing the value of a scientific spirit of enquiry,⁶ he describes it as a characteristic of the rational soul to "go the whole Universe through and grasp its plan,"⁷ affirming that "no man can be good without correct notions as to the Nature of the Whole and his own constitution."⁸

To the Stoics the Universe—God and Matter⁹—was One, all Substance, unified by the close 'sympathy'¹⁰ and interdependence of the parts, forming with the rational Power, that was co-extensive with it, a single entity. The Primary Being, by means of its inform-

¹ See Epict. i. 17.

² i. 7, 17, § 4; vii. 67; viii. 1.

³ i. 9, § 1, 17, § 5. But Rusticus (i. 7) and Maximus (i. 15) were his chief instructors in Stoicism.

⁴ vii. 11.

⁵ vii. 67.

⁶ x. 11.

⁷ xi. 1, § 2.

⁸ viii. 52; xi. 5.

⁹ αἴτιον and οὐλη.

¹⁰ iv. 27; v. 26; ix. 9, § 3.

STOICISM

ing Force,¹ acting as igneous or atmospheric current² upon inert matter, evolved out of itself a Cosmos, subsequent modifications being by way of consequence.³ This Universe is periodically destroyed by fire,⁴ thus returning again to its pristine Being, only however to be created anew⁵ on the same plan even to the smallest details; and so on for ever.

God and Matter being thus indistinguishable, for all that was not God in its original form was God in an indirect sense as a manifestation of him, the Stoic creed was inevitably pantheistic. It was also materialistic; for the Stoics, allowing existence to nothing incorporeal, by means of their strange theory of air-currents⁶ inherent even in abstract things such as virtue, rendered not only them but God himself corporeal, terming him the "perfect living Being."⁷ But their conceptions on this point seem to be really irreconcilable, for while on the one hand they speak of the Supreme Power by such names as Zeus, Cause or Force, Soul, Mind, or Reason of the Universe, Law or Truth, Destiny, Necessity, Providence, or Nature of the Whole, on the other they identify it with such terms as Fiery Fluid, or Heat, Ether (warm air) or Pneuma (atmospheric current).

¹ σπερματικὸς λόγος (used by Justin of Christ), iv. 14, 21; vi. 24; ix. 1 *ad fin.*

² πνεῦμα. This set up tension (*τόνος*), resulting in expansion and contraction (*cp.* our attraction and repulsion) and gave to things shape, quality, and relation.

³ vi. 36, § 2; ix. 1, § 4.

⁴ v. 13, 32; x. 7. The doctrine of *ἐκπύρωσις* was Heraclitan. *cp.* St. Peter, Ep. ii. 3, 7; Justin, *Apol.* i. 20; ii. 7.

⁵ παλιγγενεσία, vii. 19; xi. 1. *cp.* St. Matt. xix. 28.
⁶ *hp* πνεύματα. ⁷ iv. 40; x. 1.

STOICISM

Other physical theories were borrowed from Heraclitus, and Marcus constantly alludes to these, such as the "downward and upward" round of the elements¹ as they emanate from the primary Fire, air passing into fire, fire into earth, earth into water and so back again,² and the famous doctrine that all things are in flux.³

Man consists of Body, Soul, Intelligence, or Flesh, Pneuma, and the Ruling Reason.⁴ But the *ψυχή* (soul) can be looked upon in two ways, as *πνευμάτιον*, an exhalation from blood,⁵ and as *ἡ νοερά, ἡ λογικὴ ψυχή*, i.e. the ruling Reason. It is the latter, a "morsel" or "efflux"⁶ from the Divine, which constitutes the real man. Marcus often speaks of this rational nature⁷ of a man as his daemon, or genius enthroned within him,⁸ and makes the whole problem of life depend upon how this Reason treats itself. As all that is rational is akin, we are formed for fellowship with others and, the universe being one, what affects a part of it affects the whole. Reason is as a Law to all rational creatures, and so we are all citizens of a World-state.⁹ In this cosmopolitanism the Stoics approached the Christian view, ethics being divorced from national politics and made of universal application. It was no cloistered virtue the Stoics preached, showing how a man can save his own soul, but a practical positive goodness;¹⁰ though it cannot be denied that the claims of *αὐτάρκεια*

¹ οὐνω κάτω. vi. 17; ix. 28. ² iv. 46.

³ Δικαντα βεῖ, ii. 17; iv. 3 *ad fin.*, 36; v. 10; vi. 15; vii. 25; ix. 19; x. 7. ⁴ iii. 16; xii. 3.

⁵ v. 33; vi. 15, or *ζωή*, an inhalation from the air.

⁶ ii. 1; ii. 4; v. 27. ⁷ xi. 1.

⁸ ii. 17; iii. 7, 16; v. 27, etc., and he calls this God, iii. 5; v. 10; xii. 26. ⁹ iv. 4. ¹⁰ vi. 30.

STOICISM

(the self-sufficiency of the Inner Self) and *κοινωνία* (social interdependence of parts of a common whole) are not easy to reconcile. It is certain, however, that the Stoic admission of slaves into the brotherhood of man had an ameliorating effect upon slavery, and the well-known bias of Marcus in favour of enfranchisement may well have been due to his creed.¹

From virtue alone can happiness and peace of mind result, and virtue consists in submission to the higher Power and all that he sends us, in mastery over our animal nature, in freedom from all perturbation,² and in the entire independence of the Inner Self. Since life is Opinion³ and everything but what we think it, the vital question is what assent we give to the impressions of our senses. "Wipe out imagination," says Marcus, time after time, "and you are saved."⁴ "Do not think yourself hurt and you remain unhurt."⁵ He longs for the day when he shall cease to be duped by his impressions and pulled like a puppet by his passions,⁶ and his soul shall be in a great calm. But virtue must also show itself, like faith, in right actions. It means not only self-control but justice and benevolence to others and piety towards the Gods.

By the Gods Marcus sometimes means the controlling Reason,⁷ sometimes, apparently, Gods in a more popular sense, such as are even visible to the

¹ See *Digest*, xxviii. 4. 3. ² *ἀτραπάζεια*, ix. 31.

³ iv. 3; vii. 17; xi. 18, § 7, etc.

⁴ xii. 25.

⁵ iv. 7.

⁶ ii. 2; iii. 16; vi. 16, etc.

⁷ xii. 5; vi. 44; viii. 17; iii. 3; ix. 1. He even calls the Supreme Nature *πρεσβυτάτη τῶν θεῶν*, ix. 1.

STOICISM

eyes.¹ He often puts the alternative God (or Gods) and Atoms,² but himself firmly believes that there are immortal Gods³ who care for mankind, live with them, and help even bad men.⁴ He bids himself call upon them, follow them,⁵ be their minister, live with them and be likened to them.⁶ They too are part of the Cosmos and subject to its limitations, and by our own loyalty to Destiny we contribute to the welfare and permanence of God himself. But a predestined Order of things involved fatalism, and the Stoics were hard put to it to maintain the complete freedom of the will.

Unfortunately the Stoic scheme left no room for Immortality. At most a soul could only exist till the next conflagration, when it must be absorbed again into the Primary Being. Seneca indeed, who was no true Stoic, speaks in almost Christian terms of a new and blissful life to come,⁷ but Epictetus turns resolutely, and Marcus with evident reluctance, from a hope so dear to the human heart. In one place the latter even uses the expression "another life,"⁸ and finds it a hard saying that the souls of those who were in closest communion with God should die for ever when they die.⁹ But he does not repine. He is ready for either fate, extinction or transference elsewhere.¹⁰

One more question remains, that of Suicide. The Stoics allowed this, if circumstances made it im-

¹ xii. 28 ; iii. 16 ; viii. 19 : δ ήλιος καὶ οἱ λοιποὶ θεοί.

² iv. 3, § 2 ; viii. 17 ; xi. 18, § 1.

³ ii. 11 ; vii. 70. ⁴ ix. 11, 27, 40.

⁵ A Stoic precept. ⁶ cp. Julian, *Conv.* 421.

⁷ *Ep.* 54, 102 ; *Polyb.* *Consol.* 28 ; *ad Marciam*, 25.

⁸ iii. 3. ⁹ xii. 5.

¹⁰ iv. 21 ; xi. 3 ; xii. 31.

STOICISM

possible for a man to maintain his moral standard.¹ The door is open, but the call must be very clear.² Still the act seems quite inconsistent with the doctrine of submission to Destiny, and the classing of things external as indifferent.

In this brief sketch of Stoicism much has perforce been omitted, and much may seem obscure, but Marcus confesses that "things are in a manner so wrapped up in mystery that even the Stoics have found them difficult to apprehend."³ This at least we know, that Stoicism inspired some of the noblest lives ever lived, left its humanizing impress upon the Roman Law, which we have inherited, and appeals in an especial way to some of the higher instincts of our nature.

¹ v. 29; ix. 2.

² xi. 3; Epict. i. 29, § 28; i. 24 *ad fin.*; iii. 13, § 14.

³ v. 10.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Of the chief editions and commentaries referred to in the critical notes.

Xyl.—The premier edition from the lost Palatine MS., issued in 1558, with a Latin translation by Xylander (i.e. W. Holzmann of Augsburg).

Cas.—Meric Casaubon's first edition of the original Greek in 1643. Reprinted 1680.

Gat.—Thomas Gataker's edition, published in 1652 at Cambridge with a new Latin version and voluminous notes including contributions from *Sauvaise* (*Salm.*), *Boot*, and *Junius*. Reprinted 1696, 1704, 1707, 1729 (*Wolle* and *Buddeus*), 1744, 1751, 1775 (*Morus*).

Sch.—Jo. Matth. Schultz. Editions 1802 (Sleswig), 1820 (Leipzig), 1842 (Paris). *Menagiuss* and *Reiske* supplied notes to Schultz.

Cor.—A. Coraes, in vol. iv. : *πάρεργα τῆς βιβλιοθήκης Ἑλληνικῆς*. Paris, 1816. This editor has made more successful emendations of the text than any other.

Bach.—Nicholas Bach, “*De Marco Aurelio Antonino*,” Lipsiae, 1826.

Pierron.—Alexis Pierron, “*Pensées de l'Empereur Marc Aurèle Antonin*.” Paris, 1843 (with introduction and notes).

Lofft.—Edition by C. L. Porcher (=Capel Lofft). New York, 1863. Proof-sheets of this, with additional notes, are in the British Museum.

Scaph.—Panag. Schaphidiotes, “*Κριτικαὶ Παρατηρήσεις ἐπὶ τῶν εἰς ἑαυτὸν ιθ' βιβλίων Μάρκου Αντωνίου*.” Athens, 1881.

Stich.—Jo. Stich, “*Adnotationes criticae ad M. Antoninum*,” *Programm der K. Studienanstalt, Zweibrücken*, 1880/1.

The same editor brought out an edition for the Teubner Series in 1882, and a second revised edition in 1903, with valuable introductions and index.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Nauck.*—August Nauck, “De M. Antonini Commentariis,” 1882, *Bulletin de l'Académie impériale des Sciences de St. Petersbourg* (28), pp. 196–210. See also “Mélanges Gréco-Romains” ii. 743–5.
- Pol.*—Hermann J. Polak, “In Marci Antonini Commentarios analecta critica,” *Hermes* xxi. (1886), pp. 321–356, and *Sylloge commentationum quam C. Conto obtulerunt philologi Batavi*, Lugd. Bat., 1894, pp. 85–94.
- Rend.*—G. H. Rendall, “On the text of M. Aurelius Antoninus τὰ εἰς ἑαυτόν,” *Journal of Philology*, xxiii., pp. 116–160.
- Wilam.*—Ulrich de Wilamowitz-Moellendorf, *Griechisches Lesebuch* ii., pp. 311–320. Berlin, 1902.
- Hoffm.*—P. Hoffmann, “Notes critiques sur Marc Aurèle,” *Revue de l'Instruction publique en Belgique*, xlvi., 1904, pp. 11–23.
- Sonny.*—Adolf Sonny, “Zur Ueberlieferung Geschichte von M. A.,” *Philologus* 54, pp. 181–3.
- Leop.*—J. H. Leopold, “Ad M. Antonini commentarios,” *Mnemosyne* xxxi., 1902, pp. 341–364; xxxiv., 1907, pp. 63–82. He also brought out a new edition of the Greek text for the Clarendon Press in 1911.
- Fourn.*—Paul Fournier, “Pensées de Marc Aurèle.” Traduction d'Auguste Couat éditée par P. Fournier. Paris, 1904. There are numerous notes.
- Rich.*—Herbert Richards, “Notes on Marcus Aurelius,” *Classical Review*, xix., Feb. 1905, pp. 18–21.
- Kron.*—A. J. Kronenberg, “Ad M. Antoninum,” *Classical Review*, xix., July, 1905, pp. 301–3.
- Schmidt.*—Karl Fr. W. Schmidt, “Textkritische Bemerkungen zu Mark Aurel,” *Hermes*, xlvi. 1907, pp. 595–607.
- Lemerc.*—A. P. Lemercier, “Les Pensées de Marc Aurèle,” Paris, 1910, with notes and a good introduction.
- Schenkl.*—Heinrich Schenkl, a new edition of the *Thoughts* for the Teubner Press, 1913. The latest and most complete edition with valuable introductions and full indices. The same Editor has also published “Zur handschriftlichen Ueberlieferung von Marcus Antoninus” (*Eranos Vindobonensis*, 1893), and “Zum erste Buche des Selbstbetrachtungen des Kaisers Marcus Antoninus” (*Wiener Studien*, 1912).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Haines.—C. R. Haines, “The Composition and Chronology of the *Thoughts* of Marcus Aurelius,” *Journal of Philology*, vol. xxxiii., No. 66, pp. 278–295.

For the history and doctrines of Stoicism besides the standard work of Zeller and the recent treatise on “Roman Stoicism” by E. V. Arnold, the following will be found useful:—N. Bach (mentioned above) 1826; H. Doergens, “de comparatione Antoninianae philosophiae cum L. Annaei Senecae,” 1816; the admirable essay on Stoicism by G. H. Rendall prefixed to his edition of 1898; “Greek and Roman Stoicism” by C. H. S. Davis, 1903; and “Stoic and Christian” by Leonard Alston, 1906.

P = Codex Palatinus (Xylander), = T (Schenkl).

A = Codex Vaticanus 1950.

C = Codex Parisinus 319.

D = Codex Darmstadtinus 2773.

Mo² = Codex Monachensis (Munich) 529.

< > Words thus enclosed are inserted by conjecture.

[] Words in the text which should probably be omitted.

† Doubtful readings in the text.

“ ” mark quotations or words of a speaker.

‘ ’ mark proverbial, colloquial, or poetical expressions.

MARCUS AURELIUS
ANTONINUS

B

ΜΑΡΚΟΥ ΑΥΡΗΛΙΟΥ ΑΝΤΩΝΙΝΟΥ

ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΟΣ

ΤΩΝ ΕΙΣ ΕΑΥΤΟΝ

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ Α

α'. Παρὰ τοῦ πάππου Οὐνήρου, τὸ καλόηθες
καὶ ἀόργητον.

β'. Παρὰ τῆς δόξης καὶ μνήμης τῆς περὶ τοῦ
γεννήσαντος, τὸ αἰδῆμον καὶ ἀρρενικόν.

γ'. Παρὰ τῆς μητρός, τὸ θεοσεβὲς καὶ μετα-
δοτικόν· καὶ ἀφεκτικὸν οὐ μόνον τοῦ κακοποιεῖν,
ἀλλὰ καὶ τοῦ ἐπὶ ἐννοίας γίνεσθαι τοιαύτης· ἔτι
δὲ τὸ λιτὸν κατὰ τὴν δίαιταν καὶ πόρρω τῆς
πλουσιακῆς διαγωγῆς.

δ'. Παρὰ τοῦ προπάππου, τὸ μὴ εἰς δημοσίας
διατριβὰς φοιτῆσαι, καὶ τὸ ἀγαθοῖς διδασκάλοις
κατ' οἶκον χρήσασθαι, καὶ τὸ γνῶναι, ὅτι εἰς τὰ
τοιαῦτα δεῖ ἔκτενῶς ἀναλίσκειν.

¹ sc. "I had an example of," "was in the way to learn." But the construction varies and sometimes a direct statement of characteristics is given. It is obvious that Marcus does not claim to possess all the good qualities enumerated.

² Died before 136. The grandfather of M. (§ 1) died

MARCUS AURELIUS ANTONINUS
THE EMPEROR
TO HIMSELF

BOOK I

1. FROM MY GRANDFATHER VERUS,¹ a kindly disposition and sweetness of temper.

2. FROM WHAT I HEARD OF MY FATHER² AND MY MEMORY OF HIM, modesty and manliness.

3. FROM MY MOTHER, the fear of God, and generosity; and abstention not only from doing ill but even from the very thought of doing it; and furthermore to live the simple life,³ far removed from the habits of the rich.

4. FROM MY GRANDFATHER'S FATHER,⁴ to dispense with attendance at public schools, and to enjoy good teachers at home,⁵ and to recognize that on such things money should be eagerly spent.

aged nearly 90 in 138 (Capit. *Vit. Mar.* vi. 1; *Vit. Pii* iv. 2).

³ cp. Aristides, *ad Reg.* § 115 (Jebb) διατῆς εὐτέλεια (of Marcus).

⁴ Catilius Severus, *pruef. urbi*, who hoped to succeed Hadrian (Spart. *Vit. Hadr.* v. 10; xxiv. 6).

⁵ Capit. *Vit. Mar.* (ii. 3–iii. 4) gives a list of these.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ε'. Παρὰ τοῦ τροφέως, τὸ μήτε Πρασιανὸς μήτε Βενετιανός, μήτε Παλμουλάριος ἡ Σκουτάριος γενέσθαι· καὶ τὸ φερέπονον καὶ ὀλιγοδεές, καὶ τὸ αὐτουργικὸν καὶ ἀπολύπραγμον· καὶ τὸ δυσπρόσδεκτον διαβολῆς.

σ'. Παρὰ Διογνήτου, τὸ ἀκενόσπουδον· καὶ τὸ ἀπιστητικὸν τοῖς ὑπὸ τῶν τερατευομένων καὶ γοήτων περὶ ἐπωδῶν καὶ περὶ δαιμόνων ἀποπομπῆς καὶ τῶν τοιούτων λεγομένοις· καὶ τὸ μὴ ὄρτυγοτροφεῖν, μηδὲ περὶ τὰ τοιαῦτα ἐπτοῦσθαι· καὶ τὸ ἀνέχεσθαι παρρησίας· καὶ τὸ οἰκειωθῆναι φιλοσοφίᾳ καὶ τὸ ἀκοῦσαι πρῶτον μὲν Βακχείου, εἴτα Τανδάσιδος καὶ Μαρκιανοῦ[†]· καὶ τὸ γράψαι διαλόγους ἐν παιδί· καὶ τὸ σκίμποδος καὶ δορᾶς ἐπιθυμῆσαι καὶ ὅσα τοιαῦτα τῆς Ἑλληνικῆς ἀγωγῆς ἔχόμενα.

ζ'. Παρὰ 'Ρουστίκου, τὸ λαβεῖν φαντασίαν τοῦ χρήζειν διορθώσεως καὶ θεραπείας τοῦ ἥθους· καὶ τὸ μὴ ἐκτραπῆναι εἰς ζῆλον σοφιστικόν, μηδὲ τὸ συγγράφειν περὶ τῶν θεωρημάτων, ἡ προτρεπτικὰ λογάρια διαλέγεσθαι, ἡ φαντασιοπλήκτως τὸν ἀσκητικὸν ἡ τὸν εὐεργετικὸν ἄνδρα ἐπιδείκνυσθαι· καὶ τὸ ἀποστῆναι ῥητορικῆς καὶ ποιητικῆς καὶ ἀστειολογίας· καὶ τὸ μὴ ἐν στολῇ κατ' οἶκον

¹ The name has perhaps dropped out. Capit. Vit. Pii x. 5 has an anecdote of the death of the *educator* of Marcus, but Aristides in his funeral oration on Alexander of Cotiaeum calls the latter not only διδάσκαλος but *τροφεὺς* to Marcus and Verus (Jebb's Ed. § 149). But he is mentioned below § 10.

² Capit. Vit. Ver. vi. 2; Malalas xi. *ad fin.*

³ Dio (71. 6, § 2) calls M. φιλόπονος.

⁴ A Diogenetus taught M. painting (Capit. iv. 9).

⁵ cp. Capit. xiii. 6; Dio 71. 9, § 2 (Xiphilinus).

BOOK I

5. FROM MY TUTOR,¹ not to side with the Green Jacket or the Blue² at the races, or to back the Light-Shield Champion or the Heavy-Shield in the lists ; not to shirk toil,³ and to have few wants, and to do my own work, and mind my own concerns; and to turn a deaf ear to slander.

6. FROM DIOGENETUS,⁴ not to be taken up with trifles ; and not to give credence to the statements of miracle-mongers and wizards⁵ about incantations and the exorcizing of demons,⁶ and such-like marvels ; and not to keep quails, nor to be excited about such things : not to resent plain speaking ; and to become familiar with philosophy and be a hearer first of Baccheius, then of Tandasis and Marcianus ; and to write dialogues as a boy ; and to set my heart on a pallet-bed and a pelt⁷ and whatever else tallied with the Greek regimen.

7. FROM RUSTICUS,⁸ to become aware of the fact that I needed amendment and training for my character ; and not to be led aside into an argumentative sophistry ; nor compose treatises on speculative subjects, or deliver little homilies,⁹ or pose ostentatiously as the moral athlete or unselfish man ; and to eschew ~~rhetoric~~¹⁰ poetry, and fine language ; and not to go

⁶ Undoubtedly refers to the Christians, see *Digest* L. 13. 1, § 3, and *cp.* Justin, *Apol.* ii. 6 of Rome itself. The Christians constantly boasted of their power to exorcize : Tert. *Apol.* 23 ; Iren. ii. 6, § 2 ; Lact. v. 21. *cp.* also the legend of Abercius and his visit to Rome to cure Lucilla.

⁷ Capit. *Vit. Mar.* ii. 6

⁸ i. 17, §§ 4, 6. *cp.* *Digest.* xlix. 1. 1, § 3 "Rusticus, our friend"; Capit. iii. 3 ; Them. *Orat.* xiii. 173 c ; Fronto, *ad Ant.* 1. 2. ⁹ λογδρια (ratiunculae). *cp.* Epict. i. 29. 55.

¹⁰ i. 17, § 4. *cp.* Fronto, *ad Ant.* i. 2 (Nab. p. 96) ; *de Elogi.* 3 (Nab. p. 150). Dio (71. 35, § 1) says M. was ἀπκηθεὶς ἐν τοῖς φητορικοῖς λόγοις.

MARCUS AURELIUS

περιπατεῖν, μηδὲ τὰ τοιαῦτα ποιεῖν· καὶ τὸ τὰ
ἐπιστόλια ἀφελῶς γράφειν, οἶον τὸ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ
τούτου ἀπὸ Σινοέσσης τῇ μητρὶ μου γραφέν·
καὶ τὸ πρὸς τοὺς χαλεπήναντας καὶ πλημμελή-
σαντας εὐανακλήτως καὶ εὐδιαλλάκτως, ἐπειδὴν
τάχιστα αὐτοὶ ἐπανελθεῖν ἔθελήσωσι, δια-
κεῖσθαι· καὶ τὸ ἀκριβῶς ἀναγινώσκειν καὶ μὴ
ἀρκεῖσθαι περινοοῦντα ὄλοσχερῶς· μηδὲ τοῖς
περιλαλοῦσι ταχέως συγκατατίθεσθαι· καὶ τὸ
ἐντυχεῖν τοῖς Ἐπικτητείοις ὑπομνήμασιν, ὃν
οἴκοθεν μετέδωκεν.

η'. Παρὰ Ἀπολλωνίου, τὸ ἐλεύθερον καὶ
ἀναμφιβόλως ἀκύβευτον· καὶ πρὸς μηδὲν ἄλλο
ἀποβλέπειν μηδὲ ἐπ' ὀλίγον ἢ πρὸς τὸν λόγον·
καὶ τὸ ἀεὶ ὅμοιον, ἐν ἀλγηδόσιν ὁξείαις, ἐν ἀπο-
βολῇ τέκνου, ἐν μακραῖς νόσοις· καὶ τὸ ἐπὶ
παραδείγματος ζῶντος ἴδεῖν ἐναργῶς, ὅτι δύναται
ὁ αὐτὸς σφοδρότατος εἶναι καὶ ἀνειμένος· καὶ
τὸ ἐν ταῖς ἐξηγήσεσι μὴ δυσχεραντικόν· καὶ
τὸ ἴδεῖν ἄνθρωπον σαφῶς ἐλάχιστον τῶν ἑαυτοῦ
καλῶν ἡγούμενον τὴν ἐμπειρίαν καὶ τὴν ἐντρέχ-
ειαν τὴν περὶ τὸ παραδιδόναι τὰ θεωρήματα·
καὶ τὸ μαθεῖν, πῶς δεῖ λαμβάνειν τὰς δοκούσας
χάριτας παρὰ φίλων, μήτε ἐξηττώμενον διὰ
ταῦτα μήτε ἀναισθήτως παραπέμποντα.

θ'. Παρὰ Σέξτου, τὸ εὐμενές· καὶ τὸ παρά-

¹ As Marcus in the case of Herodes, see Philost. *Vit. Soph.* ii. 12 (Kayser's ed. p. 243).

² *cp.* Fronto, *ad Caes.* v. 36. Capit. (*Vit. Pii* x. 4) and Lucian (*Demonax* 31) shew him in a different light, as ill-mannered and avaricious. He is mentioned as Ἀντωνίου ἑταῖρος by Epiphanius.

³ See the behaviour of Marcus on the death of M. Annius

BOOK I

about the house in my robes, nor commit any such breach of good taste ; and to write letters without affectation, like his own letter written to my mother from Sinuessa ; to shew oneself ready to be reconciled to those who have lost their temper and trespassed against one, and ready to meet them halfway as soon as ever they seem to be willing to retrace their steps¹ ; to read with minute care and not to be content with a superficial bird's-eye view ; nor to be too quick in agreeing with every voluble talker ; and to make the acquaintance of the *Memoirs of Epictetus*, which he supplied me with out of his own library.

8. FROM APOLLONIUS,² self-reliance and an unequivocal determination not to leave anything to chance ; and to look to nothing else even for a moment save Reason alone ; and to remain ever the same, in the throes of pain, on the loss of a child,³ during a lingering illness ; and to see plainly from a living example that one and the same man can be very vehement and yet gentle : not to be impatient in instructing others ; and to see in him a man who obviously counted as the least among his gifts his practical experience and facility in imparting philosophic truths ; and to learn in accepting seeming favours from friends⁴ not to give up our independence for such things nor take them callously as a matter of course.

9. FROM SEXTUS,⁵ kindness, and the example of a Verus, aged 7, at Praeneste in 169 (Capit. xxi. 3), and on the death of his first-born son T. Aelius Antoninus soon after birth in 147. (*Corp. Inscript. Graec. Boeckh* 3176.) cp. Dio 71. 34, §5.

⁴ cp. Fronto, *ad Appian.* (Nab. p. 246).

⁵ Capit. iii. 1. He was of Chaeronea and grandson of Plutarch. cp. Suidas *sub voce* : "He was held in such honour by the Emperor as to act as his assessor on the bench."

MARCUS AURELIUS

δειγμα τοῦ οἴκου τοῦ πατρονομουμένου· καὶ τὴν
ἔννοιαν τοῦ κατὰ φύσιν ζῆν· καὶ τὸ σεμνὸν
ἀπλάστως· καὶ τὸ στοχαστικὸν τῶν φίλων
κηδεμονικῶς· καὶ τὸ ἀνεκτικὸν τῶν ἴδιωτῶν καὶ
τὸ ἀθεώρητον οἰομένων.[†]

- 2 Καὶ τὸ πρὸς πάντας εὐάρμοστον, ὥστε κολακ-
είας μὲν πάσης προσηνεστέραν εἶναι τὴν
όμιλίαν αὐτοῦ, αἰδεσιμώτατον δὲ αὐτοῖς ἐκείνοις
παρ' αὐτὸν ἐκεῖνον τὸν καιρὸν εἶναι· καὶ τὸ κατα-
ληπτικῶς καὶ ὁδῷ ἔξευρετικόν τε καὶ τακτικὸν
τῶν εἰς βίον ἀναγκαίων δογμάτων.
- 3 Καὶ τὸ μηδὲ ἔμφασίν ποτε ὄργης ἢ ἄλλου τινὸς
πάθους παρασχεῖν, ἀλλὰ ἂμα μὲν ἀπαθέστατον
εἶναι, ἂμα δὲ φιλοστοργότατον· καὶ τὸ εὑφημον
καὶ τοῦτο ἀψοφητί· καὶ τὸ πολυμαθὲς ἀνεπι-
φάντως.

i'. Παρὰ Ἀλεξάνδρου τοῦ γραμματικοῦ, τὸ
ἀνεπίπληκτον· καὶ τὸ μὴ ὄνειδιστικῶς ἐπιλαμβάν-
εσθαι τῶν βάρβαρον ἢ σόλοικόν τι ἢ ἀπηχὲς
προενεγκαμένων, ἀλλ' ἐπιδεξίως αὐτὸν μόνον ἐκεῖνο,
ὅτι εἰρήσθαι, προφέρεσθαι, ἐν τρόπῳ ἀποκρί-
σεως ἢ συνεπιμαρτυρήσεως ἢ συνδιαλήψεως περὶ
αὐτοῦ τοῦ πράγματος, οὐχὶ περὶ τοῦ ρήματος,
ἢ δι' ἑτέρας τινὸς τοιαύτης ἐμμελοῦς παρυπο-
μήσεως.

ia'. Παρὰ Φρόντωνος, τὸ ἐπιστῆσαι, οἷα ἡ
τυραννικὴ βασκανία καὶ ποικιλία καὶ ὑπόκρισις,
καὶ ὅτι ὡς ἐπίπαν οἱ καλούμενοι οὗτοι παρ'
ἡμῖν εὐπατρίδαι ἀστοργότεροί πως εἰσίν.

¹ Of Cotiaeum, see Aristides, *Orat.* xii. 142 ff. (Jebb's Ed.). He lived to a great age. He was in Rome in 145 (see *ibid.* § 159) and resided at the palace (§§ 148, 154). See above on i. 5.

BOOK I

household patriarchally governed ; and the conception of life in accordance with Nature ; and dignity without affectation ; and an intuitive consideration for friends ; and a toleration of the unlearned and the unreasoning.

And his tactful treatment of all his friends, so that simply to be with him was more delightful than any flattery, while at the same time those who enjoyed this privilege looked up to him with the utmost reverence ; and the grasp and method which he shewed in discovering and marshalling the essential axioms of life.

And never to exhibit any symptom of anger or any other passion, but to be at the same time utterly impervious to all passions and full of natural affection ; and to praise without noisy obtrusiveness, and to possess great learning but make no parade of it.

10. FROM ALEXANDER THE GRAMMARIAN,¹ not to be captious ; nor in a carping spirit find fault with those who import into their conversation any expression which is barbarous or ungrammatical or mispronounced, but tactfully to bring in the very expression, that ought to have been used, by way of answer, or as it were in joint support of the assertion, or as a joint consideration of the thing itself and not of the language, or by some such graceful reminder.

11. FROM FRONTO, to note the envy, the subtlety, and the dissimulation which are habitual to a tyrant ; and that, as a general rule, those amongst us who rank as patricians are somewhat wanting in natural affection.²

¹ See Fronto, *ad Ver. ii. 7* (Naber, p. 135; *cp. p. 231*). Marcus acknowledges greater debts to Fronto elsewhere, e.g. *ad Caes. iii. 12*, *Verum dicere ex te disco. Eu re prosum dis hominibusque ardua.*

MARCUS AURELIUS

ιβ'. Παρὰ Ἀλεξάνδρου τοῦ Πλατωνικοῦ, τὸ μὴ πολλάκις μηδὲ χωρὶς ἀνάγκης λέγειν πρός τινα ἡ ἐν ἐπιστολῇ γράφειν, ὅτι ἀσχολός εἴμι· μηδὲ διὰ τούτου τοῦ τρόπου συνεχῶς παραιτεῖσθαι τὰ κατὰ τὰς πρὸς τοὺς συμβιοῦντας σχέσεις καθήκοντα προβαλλόμενον τὰ περιεστῶτα πράγματα.

ιγ'. Παρὰ Κατούλου, τὸ μὴ ὄλιγώρως ἔχειν φίλου αἰτιωμένου τι, καν τύχῃ ἀλόγως αἰτιώμενος, ἀλλὰ πειρᾶσθαι καὶ¹ ἀποκαθιστάναι ἐπὶ τὸ σύνηθες· καὶ τὸ περὶ τῶν διδασκάλων ἐκθύμως εὐφῆμον, οὐα τὰ περὶ Δομετίου² καὶ Ἀθηνοδότου ἀπομνημονευόμενα· καὶ τὸ περὶ τὰ τέκνα ἀληθινῶς ἀγαπητικόν.

ιδ'. Παρὰ τοῦ ἀδελφοῦ μου Σεονήρου, τὸ φιλοίκειον καὶ φιλάληθες καὶ φιλοδίκαιον· καὶ τὸ δι' αὐτὸν γνῶναι Θρασέαν, Ἐλβίδιον, Κάτωνα, Δίωνα, Βροῦτον· καὶ φαντασίαν λαβεῖν πολιτείας ἰσονόμου, κατ' ἴσότητα καὶ ἴσηγορίαν διοικουμένης, καὶ βασιλείας τιμώσης πάντων μάλιστα τὴν ἐλευθερίαν τῶν ἀρχομένων· καὶ ἔτι παρὰ τοῦ αὐτοῦ τὸ ὄμαλὲς³ καὶ ὄμότονον ἐν τῇ τιμῇ τῆς φιλοσοφίας· καὶ τὸ εὔποιητικόν, καὶ τὸ εὐμετάδοτον ἐκτενῶς, καὶ τὸ εὔελπι, καὶ τὸ πιστευτικὸν περὶ τοῦ ὑπὸ τῶν φίλων φιλεῖσθαι· καὶ τὸ ἀνεπίκρυπτον πρὸς τοὺς καταγνώσεως ὑπ' αὐτοῦ τυγχάνοντας· καὶ τὸ μὴ δεῖσθαι στοχασμοῦ τοὺς φίλους αὐτοῦ περὶ τοῦ, τί θέλει ἡ τί οὐ θέλει, ἀλλὰ δῆλον εἶναι.

¹ This seems at first sight like our inaccurate “try and,” but καὶ must mean even.

² Δομητίου PAD. For Δομετίου cp. Herodian i. 3, § 4; C.I.G. 4154, etc. ³ ἄμελὲς PAD: δμαλὲς Cor.

BOOK I

12. FROM ALEXANDER THE PLATONIST,¹ not to say to anyone often or without necessity, nor write in a letter, *I am too busy*, nor in this fashion constantly plead urgent affairs as an excuse for evading the obligations entailed upon us by our relations towards those around us.

13. FROM CATULUS,² not to disregard a friend's expostulation even when it is unreasonable, but to try to bring him back to his usual friendliness ; and to speak with whole-hearted good-will of one's teachers, as it is recorded that Domitius³ did of Athenodotus ; and to be genuinely fond of one's children.

14. FROM MY 'BROTHER' SEVERUS,⁴ love of family, love of truth, love of justice, and (thanks to him !) to know Thrasea, Helvidius, Cato, Dion, Brutus [and the conception of a state with one law for all, based upon individual equality and freedom of speech, and of a sovereignty which prizes above all things the liberty of the subject] ; and furthermore from him also to set a well-balanced and unvarying value on philosophy ; and readiness to do others a kindness, and eager generosity, and optimism, and confidence in the love of friends ; and perfect openness in the case of those that came in for his censure ; and the absence of any need for his friends to surmise what he did or did not wish, so plain was it.

¹ See Phil. *Vit. Soph.* ii. 5, p. 247 Kays. He was summoned by Marcus to Pannonia about 174 and made his Greek secretary.

² A Stoic, see *Capit.* iii. 2.

³ Domitii were among the maternal ancestors of Marcus, and an Athenodotus was Fronto's teacher (*ad Caes.* iv. 12 ; *Nab.* p. 73).

⁴ See Index II. He was father of the son-in-law of Marcus.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ιε'. Παρὰ Μαξίμου, τὸ κρατεῖν ἑαυτοῦ καὶ κατὰ μηδὲν περίφορον εἰναι· καὶ τὸ εὕθυμον ἐν τε ταῖς ἄλλαις περιστάσεσι καὶ ἐν ταῖς νόσοις· καὶ τὸ εὔκρατον τοῦ ἥθους καὶ μειλίχιον καὶ γεραρόν· καὶ τὸ οὐ σχετλίως κατεργαστικὸν τῶν προκειμένων.

- 2 Καὶ τὸ πάντας αὐτῷ πιστεύειν, περὶ ὧν λέγοι, ὅτι οὕτως φρουεῖ, καὶ περὶ ὧν πράττοι, ὅτι οὐ κακῶς πράττει. καὶ τὸ ἀθαύμαστον καὶ ἀνέκπληκτον, καὶ μηδαμοῦ ἐπειγόμενον ἢ ὀκνοῦν ἢ ἀμηχανοῦν ἢ κατηφὲς ἢ προσεσηρός, ἢ πάλιν θυμούμενον ἢ ὑφορώμενον.
- 3 Καὶ τὸ εὐεργετικὸν καὶ τὸ συγγνωμονικὸν καὶ τὸ ἀψευδές· καὶ τὸ ἀδιαστρόφου μᾶλλον ἢ διορθουμένου φαντασίαν παρέχειν· καὶ ὅτι οὕτε ωήθη ἂν ποτέ τις ὑπερορᾶσθαι ὑπ' αὐτοῦ, οὕτε ὑπέμεινεν ἂν κρείττονα αὐτοῦ αὐτὸν ὑπολαβεῖν· καὶ τὸ εὐχαριεντίζεσθαι.^{†1}

ιε'. Παρὰ τοῦ πατρός, τὸ ἥμερον, καὶ μενετικὸν ἀσαλεύτως ἐπὶ τῶν ἔξητασμένως κριθέντων· καὶ τὸ ἀκενόδοξον περὶ τὰς δοκούσας τιμάς· καὶ τὸ φιλόπονον καὶ ἐνδελεχές· καὶ τὸ ἀκουστικὸν τῶν ἔχόντων τι κοινωφελές εἰσφέρειν· καὶ τὸ ἀπαρατρέπτως [εἰς] τὸ² κατ' ἀξίαν ἀπονεμητικὸν ἐκάστῳ· καὶ τὸ ἔμπειρον, ποῦ μὲν χρεία ἐντάσεως, ποῦ δὲ ἀνέσεως· καὶ τὸ παῦσαι τὰ περὶ τοὺς ἔρωτας τῶν μειρακίων.

¹ εὖ χαριεντίζεσθαι Menag. : εὐχαρι ἐν ταῖς δμιλίαις Leop. : εὐχαρι ἐν τ . . . līzeσθαι Schenkl. ² ἀεὶ τοῦ Schenkl.

¹ i. 16, § 9; viii. 25. See Capit. iii. 2; Index II.

² Marcus raised a temple to Εὐεργεστα, a new deity. See Dio 71. 34, § 3. ³ cp. iii. 5.

BOOK I

15. FROM MAXIMUS,¹ self-mastery and stability of purpose ; and cheeriness in sickness as well as in all other circumstances ; and a character justly proportioned of sweetness and gravity ; and to perform without grumbling the task that lies to one's hand.

And the confidence of every one in him that what he said was also what he thought, and that what he did was done with no ill intent. And not to shew surprise, and not to be daunted ; never to be hurried, or hold back, or be at a loss, or downcast, or smile a forced smile, or, again, be ill-tempered or suspicious.

And beneficence² and placability and veracity ; and to give the impression of a man who cannot deviate from the right way rather than of one who is kept in it³ ; and that no one could have thought himself looked down upon by him, or could go so far as to imagine himself a better man than he ; and to keep pleasantry within due bounds.

16. FROM MY FATHER,⁴ mildness, and an unshakable adherence to decisions deliberately come to ; and no empty vanity in respect to so-called honours ; and a love of work and thoroughness ; and a readiness to hear any suggestions for the common good ; and an inflexible determination to give every man his due ; and to know by experience when is the time to insist and when to desist ; and to suppress all passion for boys.⁵

⁴ Here Pius, his adoptive father, is meant, not as above (i. 2) his father Verus. For a first sketch of this eulogy of Pius see below vi. 30.

⁵ It is not quite clear whether this means that Pius had put away this vice from himself or others, but the active verb seems rather to favour the latter view. Capit. *Vit. Pii* ii. 1, calls him *clarus moribus* (*cp.* also *Aur. Vict. de Caes.* xv.), but Julian says he was *σώφρων οὐ τὰ ἐς Ἀφροδίτην*.

MARCUS AURELIUS

- 2 Καὶ ἡ κοινονοημοσύνη, καὶ τὸ ἐφεῖσθαι τοῖς φίλοις μήτε συνδειπνεῖν αὐτῷ πάντως μήτε συναποδημεῖν ἐπάναγκες· ἀεὶ δὲ ὅμοιον αὐτὸν καταλαμβάνεσθαι ὑπὸ τῶν διὰ χρείας τινὰς ἀπολειφθέντων· καὶ τὸ ζητητικὸν ἀκριβῶς ἐν τοῖς συμβουλίοις, καὶ ἐπίμονον, ἀλλ' + οὗτοι¹ προαπέστη + τῆς ἐρεύνης ἀρκεσθεὶς ταῖς προχείροις φαντασίαις· καὶ τὸ διατηρητικὸν τῶν φίλων καὶ μηδαμοῦ ἀψίκορον μηδὲ ἐπιμανές· καὶ τὸ αὔταρκες ἐν παντί, καὶ τὸ φαιδρόν· καὶ τὸ πόρρωθεν προνοητικόν, καὶ τῶν ἐλαχίστων προδιοικητικὸν ἀτραγφόδως.
- 3 Καὶ τὸ τὰς ἐπιβοήσεις καὶ πᾶσαν κολακείαν ἐπ' αὐτοῦ σταλῆναι· καὶ τὸ φυλακτικὸν ἀεὶ τῶν ἀναγκαίων τῇ ἀρχῇ, καὶ ταμευτικὸν τῆς χορηγίας, καὶ ὑπομενετικὸν τῆς ἐπὶ τῶν τοιούτων τινῶν καταιτιάσεως· καὶ τὸ μήτε περὶ θεοὺς δεισίδαιμον, μήτε περὶ ἀνθρώπους δημοκοπικὸν ἢ ἀρεσκευτικὸν ἢ ὀχλοχαρές, ἀλλὰ νῆφον ἐν πᾶσι, καὶ βέβαιον, καὶ μηδαμοῦ ἀπειρόκαλον μηδὲ καινοτόμον.
- 4 Καὶ τὸ τοῖς εἰς εὐμάρειαν βίου φέρουσί τι, ὃν ἡ τύχη παρέχει δαψίλειαν, χρηστικὸν ἀτύφως ἄμα καὶ ἀπροφασίστως, ὥστε παρόντων μὲν ἀνεπιτηδεύτως ἅπτεσθαι, ἀπόντων δὲ μὴ δεῖσθαι· καὶ τὸ μηδὲ ἄν τινα εἰπεῖν μήτε ὅτι σοφιστής, μήτε ὅτι οὐερνάκλος μήτε ὅτι σχολαστικός, ἀλλ' ὅτι ἀνὴρ πέπειρος, τέλειος, ἀκολάκευτος,

¹ οὐν τὸ PA : οὗτοι Stich : δτι οὐν Gat. : οὐκοτε Cor.

BOOK I

And his public spirit, and his not requiring his friends at all to sup with him or necessarily attend him abroad,¹ and their always finding him the same when any urgent affairs had kept them away; and the spirit of thorough investigation which he shewed in the meetings of his Council, and his perseverance; nay his never desisting prematurely from an enquiry on the strength of off-hand impressions; and his faculty for keeping his friends and never being bored with them or infatuated about them; and his self-reliance in every emergency, and his good humour; and his habit of looking ahead and making provision for the smallest details without any heroics.

And his restricting in his reign public acclamations and every sort of adulation; and his unsleeping attention to the needs of the empire, and his wise stewardship of its resources, and his patient tolerance of the censure that all this entailed; and his freedom from superstition with respect to the Gods and from hunting for popularity with respect to men by pandering to their desires or by courting the mob: yea his soberness in all things² and stedfastness; and the absence in him of all vulgar tastes and any craze for novelty.

And the example that he gave of utilizing without pride, and at the same without any apology, all the lavish gifts of Fortune that contribute towards the comfort of life, so as to enjoy them when present as a matter of course, and, when absent, not to miss them: and no one could charge him with sophistry, flippancy,³ or pedantry; but he was a man mature,

¹ cp. Fronto, *ad Caes.* iii. 20; v. 44.

² cp. St. Paul, Tim. ii. 4. 5.

³ lit. that he was a "home-bred slave," i.e. impudent.

MARCUS AURELIUS

προεστάναι δυνάμενος, καὶ τῶν ἑαυτοῦ καὶ ἄλλων.

- 5 Πρὸς τούτοις δὲ καὶ τὸ τιμητικὸν τῶν ἀληθῶς φιλοσοφούντων, τοῖς δὲ ἄλλοις οὐκ ἔξουειδιστικὸν οὐδὲ μὴν εὐπαράγωγον ὑπ' αὐτῶν ἔτι δὲ τὸ εὐόμιλον καὶ εὔχαρι οὐ κατακόρως· καὶ τὸ τοῦ ἴδίου σώματος ἐπιμελητικὸν ἐμμέτρως, οὗτε ὡς ἂν τις φιλόζωος οὕτε πρὸς καλλωπισμὸν οὕτε μὴν ὀλιγώρως, ἀλλ' ὥστε διὰ τὴν ἴδιαν προσοχὴν εἰς ὀλίγιστα ἰατρικῆς χρήζειν ἢ φαρμάκων καὶ ἐπιθεμάτων ἔκτος.
- 6 Μάλιστα δὲ τὸ παραχωρητικὸν ἀβασκάνως τοῖς δύναμίν τινα κεκτημένοις, οἷον τὴν φραστικὴν ἢ τὴν ἔξιστορίας νόμων ἢ ἐθῶν ἢ ἄλλων τινῶν πραγμάτων· καὶ συσπουδαστικὸν αὐτοῖς, ἵνα ἔκαστοι κατὰ τὰ ἴδια προτερήματα εὐδοκιμῶσι· πάντα δὲ κατὰ τὰ πάτρια πράσσων, οὐδὲ αὐτὸς τοῦτο ἐπιτηδεύων φαίνεσθαι, τὸ τὰ πάτρια φυλάσσειν.
- 7 "Ἐτι δὲ τὸ μὴ εὐμετακίνητον καὶ ριπταστικόν, ἀλλὰ καὶ τόποις, καὶ πράγμασι τοῖς αὐτοῖς ἐνδιατριπτικόν καὶ τὸ μετὰ τοὺς παροξυσμοὺς τῆς κεφαλαλγίας νεαρὸν εὐθὺς καὶ ἀκμαῖον πρὸς τὰ συνήθη ἔργα· καὶ τὸ μὴ εἶναι αὐτῷ πολλὰ τὰ ἀπόρρητα, ἀλλὰ ὀλίγιστα καὶ σπανιώτατα, καὶ ταῦτα ὑπὲρ τῶν κοινῶν μόνον καὶ τὸ ἔμφρον καὶ μεμετρημένον ἐν τε θεωριῶν ἐπιτελέσει καὶ ἔργων κατασκευαῖς καὶ διανομαῖς καὶ τοῖς τοιούτοις, <ἄ> ἀνθρώπου¹ πρὸς αὐτὸς τὸ

¹ ἀνθρώπους PAD : ἀ ἀνθρώπου Schenkl.

¹ Julian calls Marcus *tetrágynos*—“a man foursquare.”

BOOK I

complete,¹ deaf to flattery, able to preside over his own affairs and those of others.

Besides this also was his high appreciation of all true philosophers without any upbraiding of the others, and at the same time without any undue subservience to them ; then again his easiness of access and his graciousness that yet had nothing fulsome about it ; and his reasonable attention to his bodily requirements, not as one too fond of life, or vain of his outward appearance,² nor yet as one who neglected it, but so as by his own carefulness to need but very seldom the skill of the leech or medicines and outward applications.

But most of all a readiness to acknowledge without jealousy the claims of those who were endowed with any especial gift, such as eloquence or knowledge of law or ethics or any other subject, and to give them active support, that each might gain the honour to which his individual eminence entitled him ; and his loyalty to constitutional precedent without any parade of the fact that it was according to precedent.

Furthermore he was not prone to change or vacillation, but attached to the same places and the same things ; and after his spasms of violent headache he would come back at once to his usual employments with renewed vigour ; and his secrets were not many but very few and at very rare intervals, and then only political secrets ; and he shewed good sense and moderation in his management of public spectacles, and in the construction of public works, and in congiaria³ and the like, as a man who

² Capit. (*Vit. Pii* xiii. 1) says he wore stays to keep himself upright in old age.

³ lit. “*distributions.*” cp. Capit. *Vit. Pii* iv. 9 ; viii. 11.

MARCUS AURELIUS

δέον πραχθῆναι δεδορκάτος, οὐ πρὸς τὴν ἐπὶ τοῖς πραχθεῖσιν εὐδοξίαν.

8 Οὐκ [ἐν] ἀωρὶ λούστης, οὐχὶ φίλοικοδόμος, οὐ περὶ τὰς ἔδωδὰς ἐπινοητής, οὐ περὶ ἐσθήτων ὑφὰς καὶ χρόας, οὐ περὶ σωμάτων ὥρας. Τὴν ἀπὸ Λωρίου στολὴν ἀνάγουσα ἀπὸ τῆς κάτω ἐπαύλεως, καὶ τῶν ἐν Λανουβίῳ τὰ πολλά.† τῷ τελώνῃ ἐν Τούσκλοις παραιτουμένῳ ὡς ἐχρήσατο, καὶ πᾶς ὁ τοιοῦτος τρόπος.

9 Οὐδὲν ἀπηνὲς οὐδὲ μὴν ἀδυσώπητον οὐδὲ λάβρον οὐδὲ ὡς ἄν τινα εἰπεῖν ποτε “ἔως ιδρῶτος.” ἀλλὰ πάντα διειλημμένα λελογίσθαι, ὡς ἐπὶ σχολῆς, ἀταράχως, τεταγμένως, ἐρρωμένως, συμφώνως ἔαυτοῖς. ἐφαρμόσειε δὲ ἀν αὐτῷ τὸ περὶ τοῦ Σωκράτους μνημονευόμενον, δτὶ καὶ ἀπέχεσθαι καὶ ἀπολαύειν ἐδύνατο τούτων, ὃν πολλοὶ πρὸς τε τὰς ἀποχὰς ἀσθενῶς καὶ πρὸς τὰς ἀπολαύσεις ἐνδοτικῶς ἔχουσιν. τὸ δὲ ἵσχυειν καὶ ἐπικαρτερεῖν¹ καὶ ἐννήφειν ἐκατέρῳ ἀνδρός ἐστιν ἄρτιον καὶ ἀγήτητον ψυχὴν ἔχοντος, οἷον ἐν τῇ νόσῳ τῇ Μαξίμου.

ιζ. Παρὰ τῶν θεῶν, τὸ ἀγαθοὺς πάππους, ἀγαθοὺς γονέας, ἀγαθὴν ἀδελφήν, ἀγαθοὺς διδασκάλους, ἀγαθοὺς οἰκείους, συγγενεῖς, φίλους, σχεδὸν ἅπαντας ἔχειν· καὶ ὅτι περὶ οὐδένα αὐτῶν προέπεσον πλημμελῆσαι τι καίτοι διάθεσιν ἔχων τοιαύτην, ἀφ' ἧς, εἰ ἔτυχε, καν ἔπραξά τι τοιοῦτο·

¹ Εἴτι καρτερεῖν PA : ἐπικαρτερεῖν Cas.

¹ Xen. *Mem.* I. 3, § 15. πολλοὶ would here seem = οἱ πολλοί.

² The Greek may also mean “To be strong and to persist without excess in each case is characteristic,” and ἐκατέρῳ suits this better.

BOOK I

had an eye to what had to be done and not to the credit to be gained thereby.

He did not bathe at all hours ; he did not build — for the love of building ; he gave no thought to his food, or to the texture and colour of his clothes, or the comeliness of his slaves. His robe came up from Lorium, his country-seat in the plains, and Lanuvium supplied his wants for the most part. Think of how he dealt with the customs' officer at Tusculum when the latter apologized, and it was a type of his usual conduct.

There was nothing rude in him, nor yet overbearing or violent nor carried, as the phrase goes, "to the sweating state" ; but everything was considered separately, as by a man of ample leisure, calmly, methodically, manfully, consistently. One might apply to him what is told of Socrates,¹ that he was able to abstain from or enjoy those things that many are not strong enough to refrain from and too much inclined to enjoy. But to have the strength to persist in the one case and be abstemious in the other² is characteristic of a man who has a perfect and indomitable soul, as was seen in the illness of Maximus.

17. FROM THE GODS, to have good grandfathers,³ good parents, a good sister, good teachers, good companions, kinsmen, friends—nearly all of them ; and that I fell into no trespass against any of them, and yet I had a disposition that way inclined, such as might have led me into something of the sort,⁴ had

³ i.e. M. Annius Verus, three times consul (Dio 69. 21, § 1) and *praef. urbi* (Capit. i. 2), who died 138, and P. Calvisius Tullus, cons. suff. 109. See Capit. i. 3 ; Fronto, *ad Caes.* iii. 2.

⁴ cp. i. 17, § 6 ; xi. 18, § 4.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τῶν θεῶν δὲ εὐποιία τὸ μηδεμίαν συνδρομὴν πραγμάτων γενέσθαι, ἥτις ἔμελλε με ἐλέγξειν.

- 2 Καὶ τὸ μὴ ἐπὶ πλέον τραφῆναι παρὰ τῇ παλλακῇ τοῦ πάππου· καὶ τὸ τὴν ὥραν διασῶσαι· καὶ τὸ μὴ πρὸ ὥρας ἀνδρωθῆναι, ἀλλ’ ἔτι καὶ ἐπιλαβεῖν τοῦ χρόνου.
- 3 Τὸ ἄρχοντι καὶ πατρὶ ὑποταχθῆναι, ὃς ἔμελλε πάντα τὸν τύφον ἀφαιρήσειν μου, καὶ εἰς ἔννοιαν ἀξεῖν τοῦ ὅτι δυνατόν ἐστιν ἐν αὐλῇ βιοῦντα μήτε δορυφορήσεων χρήζειν μήτε ἐσθήτων σημειωδῶν μήτε λαμπάδων καὶ ἀνδριάντων [τοιῶνδέ τινων] καὶ τοῦ ὁμοίου κόμπου· ἀλλ’ ἔξεστιν ἐγγυτάτῳ ἴδιώτου συστέλλειν ἑαυτόν, καὶ μὴ διὰ τοῦτο ταπεινότερον ἢ ράθυμοτέρον ἔχειν πρὸς τὰ ὑπὲρ τῶν κοινῶν ἡγεμονικῶς πραχθῆναι δέοντα.
- 4 Τὸ ἀδελφοῦ τοιούτου τυχεῖν δυναμένου μὲν διὰ ἡθους ἐπεγεῖραι με πρὸς ἐπιμέλειαν ἐμαυτοῦ, ἀμα δὲ καὶ τιμῆ καὶ στοργὴ εὐφραίνοντός με· τὸ παιδία μοι ἀφυῆ μὴ γενέσθαι μηδὲ κατὰ τὸ σωμάτιον διάστροφα· τὸ μὴ ἐπὶ πλέον με προκόψαι ἐν ρήτορικῇ καὶ ποιητικῇ καὶ τοῖς ἄλλοις ἐπιτηδεύμασιν, ἐν οἷς ἵσως ἀν κατεσχέθην, εἰ ἡσθόμην ἐμαυτὸν εὐόδως προϊόντα. τὸ φθάσαι τοὺς τροφέας ἐν ἀξιώματι καταστῆσαι, οὐ δὴ

¹ *cp. ix. 21.* After his father's death Marcus was brought up at his grandfather's house (*Capit. i. 7*). *Capit. (v. 3)* says he migrated *de maternis hortis* much against his will to the imperial palace when adopted by Hadrian. It is possible but not likely that "grandfather" here means Hadrian.

² L. Verus, whose character was more of a warning than an example, as Lucian *Nigr. 19* calls Rome for its wickedness

BOOK I

it so chanced ; but by the grace of God there was no such coincidence of circumstances as was likely to put me to the test.

And that I was not brought up any longer with my grandfather's¹ concubine, and that I kept unstained the flower of my youth ; and that I did not make trial of my manhood before the due time, but even postponed it.

That I was subordinated to a ruler and a father capable of ridding me of all conceit, and of bringing me to recognize that it is possible to live in a Court and yet do without body-guards and gorgeous garments and linkmen and statues and the like pomp ; and that it is in such a man's power to reduce himself very nearly to the condition of a private individual and yet not on this account to be more paltry or more remiss in dealing with what the interests of the state require to be done in imperial fashion.

That it was my lot to have such a brother,² capable by his character of stimulating me to watchful care over myself, and at the same time delighting me by his deference³ and affection : that my children have not been devoid of intelligence nor physically deformed. That I did not make more progress in rhetoric⁴ and poetry⁵ and my other studies, in which I should perhaps have been engrossed, had I felt myself making good way in them. That I lost no time in promoting my tutors to such posts of

γυμνάσιον ἀρετῆς, see Epict. iii. 20, § 11. Marcus seems to have been genuinely fond of him, see Fronto, *ad Ver.* ii. 1; *ad Caes.* ii. 17; and *cp.* Aristides, *Paneg. in Cyz.* § 425 (Jebb).

¹ *Capit. Vit. Ver.* viii. 5. ⁴ i. 7.

² i. 7. *cp.* Fronto, *ad Caes.* i. 8; *ad Ant.* i. 2 (Nab. p. 96); *de Elog.* 3 (Nab. p. 150).

MARCUS AURELIUS

έδόκουν μοι ἐπιθυμεῖν, καὶ μὴ ἀνιβαλέσθαι ἐλπίδι τοῦ με,¹ ἐπεὶ νέοι ἔτι ήσαν, ὕστερον αὐτὸ πράξειν. τὸ γνῶναι Ἀπολλώνιον, Ρούστικον, Μάξιμον.

- 5 Τὸ φαντασθῆναι περὶ τοῦ κατὰ φύσιν βίου ἐναργῶς καὶ πολλάκις, οἷός τίς ἐστι· ὥστε, δοσον ἐπὶ τοῖς θεοῖς καὶ ταῖς ἐκεῖθεν διαδόσεσι καὶ συλλήψεσι καὶ ἐπινοίαις, μηδὲν κωλύειν ἥδη κατὰ φύσιν ζῆν με, ἀπολείπεσθαι δὲ ἔτι τούτου παρὰ τὴν ἐμὴν αὐτίαν, καὶ παρὰ τὸ μὴ διατηρεῖν τὰς ἐκ τῶν θεῶν ὑπομνήσεις καὶ μονονουχὶ διδασκαλίας.
- 6 Τὸ ἀντισχέν μοι τὸ σῶμα ἐπὶ τοσοῦτον ἐν τοιούτῳ βίῳ· τὸ μήτε Βενεδίκτης ἄψασθαι μήτε Θεοδότου, ἀλλὰ καὶ ὕστερον ἐν ἐρωτικοῖς πάθεσι γενόμενον ὑγιάναι· τὸ χαλεπήναντα πολλάκις Ρουστίκῳ μηδὲν πλέον πρᾶξαι, ἐφ' ὧ ἀν μετέγνων· τὸ μέλλουσαν νέαν τελευτᾶν τὴν τεκοῦσαν δύμας οἰκῆσαι μετ' ἐμοῦ τὰ τελευταῖα ἔτη.
- 7 Τὸ ὁσάκις ἐβουλήθην ἐπικουρῆσαι τινι πενομένῳ ἢ εἰς ἄλλο τι χρήζοντι, μηδέποτε ἀκοῦσαι με, ὅτι οὐκ ἐστι μοι χρήματα, ὅθεν γενήται· καὶ τὸ αὐτῷ ἐμοὶ χρείαν ὄμοίαν, ὡς παρ' ἐτέρου μεταλαβεῖν, μὴ συμπεσεῖν· τὸ τὴν γυναικα τοιαύτην εἶναι, οὐτωσὶ μὲν πειθήνιον, οὗτοι δὲ φιλόστοργον, οὕτω δὲ ἀφελῆ· τὸ ἐπιτηδείων τροφέων εἰς τὰ παιδία εὐπορῆσαι.

¹ τοῦ μὴ PA : με Cas.

¹ e.g. Rusticus, cons. ii. in 162, and *praef. urbi*; Proculus, see Capit. ii. 5.

² i. 9. ³ Dio 71. 36, § 3.

⁴ Domitia Lucilla, dau. of P. Calvisius Tullus. She died in 156, aged about 50. For her see above i. 3; viii. 25;

BOOK I

honour¹ as they seemed to desire, and that I did not put them off with the hope that I would do this later on since they were still young. That I got to know Apollonius, Rusticus, Maximus.

That I had clear and frequent conceptions as to the true meaning of a life according to Nature,² so that as far as the Gods were concerned and their blessings and assistance and intention, there was nothing to prevent me from beginning at once to live in accordance with Nature, though I still come short of this ideal by my own fault, and by not attending to the reminders, nay, almost the instructions, of the Gods.

That my body holds out so long in such a life as mine³; that I did not touch Benedicta or Theodotus, but that even afterwards, when I did give way to amatory passions, I was cured of them; that, though often offended with Rusticus, I never went so far as to do anything for which I should have been sorry; that my mother,⁴ though she was to die young, yet spent her last years with me.

That as often as I had the inclination to help any-one, who was in pecuniary distress or needing any other assistance, I was never told that there was no money available for the purpose; and that I was never under any similar need of accepting help from another. That I have been blessed with a wife so docile,⁵ so affectionate, so unaffected;⁶ that I had no lack of suitable tutors for my children.

Fronto, *ad Caes.* iv. 6; *Capit.* vi. 9. Her head appears on a coin of Nicaea in Bithynia.⁵ *cp.* Fronto, *ad Caes.* v. 11.

⁶ *cp.* Fronto, *ad Pium* 2, *ad fin.* for Pius' opinion of his daughter. The coiffure of the younger Faustina as seen on coins is much simpler than that of her mother. She was with Marcus in Pannonia for a time at least.

MARCUS AURELIUS

8 Τὸ δι' ὀνειράτων βοηθήματα δοθῆναι ἄλλα τε καὶ ὡς μὴ πτύειν αἷμα καὶ μὴ ἰλιγγᾶν, καὶ τὸ τοῦ ἐν¹ Καιῆτη †“ ὥσπερ χρήση” † ὅπως τε ἐπεθύμησα φιλοσοφίας, μὴ ἐμπεσεῖν εἰς τινα σοφιστήν, μηδὲ ἀποκαθίσαι ἐπὶ τοὺς συγγραφεῖς, †² ἢ συλλογισμοὺς ἀναλύειν, ἢ περὶ τὰ μετεωρολογικὰ καταγίνεσθαι. πάντα γὰρ ταῦτα ‘θεῶν βοηθῶν καὶ τύχης δεῖται <τινος>.³

Τὰ ἐν Κουάδοις πρὸς τῷ Γρανούᾳ. α'⁴

¹ τούτου PA : τὸ τοῦ ἐν Καιῆτη “ ὥσπερ χρήση ” Loftt.

² τὸς συγγραφεῖς PA : τὸ συγγράφειν Reiske : ἐπὶ τοῦ γρίφους (riddles) Schenkl.

³ I have added τινδὲ to complete the apparent senarius, the source of which is not known.

⁴ It is not clear what this numeral (= 1) represents.

¹ cp. Fronto, *ad Caes.* iii. 9, and below, ix. 27. Marcus himself became a dream-giver after his death, see Capit. xviii. 7. Dreams were the recognised method by which the

BOOK I

That by the agency of dreams¹ I was given antidotes both of other kinds and against the spitting of blood and vertigo; and there is that response also at Caieta, "*as thou shalt use it.*" And that, when I had set my heart on philosophy, I did not fall into the hands of a sophist, nor sat down at the author's desk, or became a solver of syllogisms, nor busied myself with physical phenomena. For all the above *the Gods as helpers and good fortune need.*

Written among the Quadi on the Gran.²

God of healing communicated his prescriptions. Belief in them was universal, and shared by the atheist Pliny, the sceptic Lucian, Aristides the devotee, Galen the scientist, Dio the historian and man of affairs. It is not unknown to Christians. Yet there have been found writers to gird at Marcus for his "superstitious" belief in dreams!

² These words may be intended either to conclude the first book or, more likely, head the second. In the former case, as Gataker points out, τάδε would have been usual, not τά.

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ Β¹

a'. Εωθεν προλέγειν ἔαυτῷ συντεύξομαι περιέργῳ, ἀχαρίστῳ, ὑβριστῇ, δολερῷ, βασκάνῳ, ἀκοινωνήτῳ. πάντα ταῦτα συμβέβηκεν ἐκείνοις παρὰ τὴν ἄγνοιαν τῶν ἀγαθῶν καὶ κακῶν. ἐγὼ δὲ τεθεωρηκὼς τὴν φύσιν τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ, ὅτι καλόν, καὶ τοῦ κακοῦ, ὅτι αἰσχρόν, καὶ τὴν αὐτὸῦ τοῦ ἀμαρτάνοντος φύσιν, ὅτι μοι συγγενής, οὐχὶ αἷματος ἢ σπέρματος τοῦ αὐτοῦ, ἀλλὰ νοῦ καὶ θείας ἀπομοίρας² μέτοχος, οὔτε βλαβῆναι ὑπό τινος αὐτῶν δύναμαι· αἰσχρῷ γάρ με οὐδεὶς περιβαλεῖ· οὔτε ὀργίζεσθαι τῷ συγγενεῖ δύναμαι οὔτε ἀπέχθεσθαι αὐτῷ. γεγόναμεν γὰρ πρὸς συνεργίαν, ὡς πόδες, ὡς χέρες, ὡς βλέφαρα, ὡς οἱ στοῖχοι τῶν ἄνω καὶ κάτω ὁδόντων. τὸ οὖν ἀντιπράσσειν ἀλλήλοις παρὰ φύσιν· ἀντιπρακτικὸν δὲ τὸ ἀγανακτεῖν καὶ ἀποστρέφεσθαι.

β'. "Ο τί ποτε τοῦτό είμι, σαρκία ἐστὶ καὶ πνευμάτιον καὶ τὸ ἡγεμονικόν. ἄφει τὰ βιβλία· μηκέτι σπῶ· οὐ δέδοται. ἀλλ' ὡς ἡδη ἀποθνήσκων τῶν μὲν σαρκίων καταφρόνησον· λύθρος καὶ ὀστάρια καὶ κροκύφαντος, ἐκ νεύρων, φλεβίων, ἀρτηριῶν πλεγμάτιον. θέασαι δὲ καὶ τὸ πνεῦμα,

¹ <τοῦ αὐτοῦ Μάρκου· ἀντικρυς ἐπικτητίζει> D.

² ἀπόρροια (cp. ii. 4) "efflux from," Corssen.

BOOK II

1. SAY to thyself at daybreak:¹ I shall come across the busy-body, the thankless, the bully, the treacherous, the envious, the unneighbourly.² All this has befallen them because they know not good from evil. But I, in that I have comprehended the nature of the Good that it is beautiful, and the nature of Evil that it is ugly, and the nature of the wrong-doer himself that it is akin to me, not as partaker of the same blood and seed but of intelligence and a morsel of the Divine, can neither be injured by any of them—for no one can involve me in what is debasing—nor can I be wroth with my kinsman and hate him. For we have come into being for co-operation, as have the feet, the hands, the eyelids, the rows of upper and lower teeth. Therefore to thwart one another is against Nature ; and we do thwart one another by shewing resentment and aversion.

2. This that I am, whatever it be, is mere flesh and a little breath and the ruling Reason. Away with thy books³! Be no longer drawn aside by them: it is not allowed. But as one already dying disdain the flesh : it is naught but gore and bones and a network compact of nerves and veins and arteries. Look at the breath too, what sort of thing it is ; air :

¹ v. 1.

² cp. Sen. *de Ira* ii. 10.

³ cp. ii. 3.

MARCUS AURELIUS

όποιόν τί ἔστιν ἄνεμος· οὐδὲ ἀεὶ τὸ αὐτό, ἀλλὰ πάσης ὥρας ἐξεμούμενον καὶ πάλιν ῥοφούμενον. τρίτον οὖν ἔστι τὸ ἡγεμονικόν. ὡδε¹ ἐπινοήθητι· γέρων εἰ· μηκέτι τοῦτο ἔάσης δουλεῦσαι, μηκέτι καθ' ὄρμὴν ἀκοινώνητον νευροσπαστηθῆναι, μηκέτι τὸ εἰμαρμένον ἢ παρὸν δυσχερᾶναι ἢ μέλλον ἀποδύρεσθαι.²

γ'. Τὰ τῶν θεῶν προνοίας μεστά, τὰ τῆς τύχης οὐκ ἄνευ φύσεως ἢ συγκλώσεως καὶ ἐπιπλοκῆς τῶν προνοίᾳ διοικουμένων. πάντα ἐκεῖθεν ῥεῖ· πρόσεστι δὲ τὸ ἀναγκαῖον, καὶ τὸ τῷ ὅλῳ κόσμῳ συμφέρον, οὐ μέρος εἰ. παντὶ δὲ φύσεως μέρει ἀγαθόν, δι φέρει ἢ τοῦ ὅλου φύσις, καὶ δι ἐκείνης ἔστι σωστικόν. σώζουσι δὲ κόσμον, ὥσπερ αἱ τῶν στοιχείων, οὗτως καὶ αἱ τῶν συγκριμάτων μεταβολαί. ταῦτά σοι ἀρκείτω, εἰ δόγματά ἔστι. ³ τὴν δὲ τῶν βιβλίων δίψαν ῥίψον, ἵνα μὴ γογγύζων ἀποθάνης, ἀλλὰ ἰλεως, ἀληθῶς, καὶ ἀπὸ καρδίας εὐχάριστος τοῖς θεοῖς.

δ'. Μέμυησο, ἐκ πόσου ταῦτα ἀναβάλλῃ, καὶ όποσάκις προθεσμίας λαβὼν παρὰ τῶν θεῶν οὐ χρᾷ αὐταῖς. δεῖ δὲ ἡδη ποτὲ αὐσθέσθαι, τίνος κόσμου μέρος εἰ, καὶ τίνος διοικούντος τὸν κόσμον ἀπόρροια ὑπέστης· καὶ διτι ὅρος ἔστι σοι περιγεγραμμένος τοῦ χρόνου, φέαν εἰς τὸ ἀπαιθριάσαι

¹ φ δὴ ADC : ὡδὶ Wilam. : ἀπονοήθητι PADC.

² ἀποδύεσθαι AD : ὑποδύεσθαι P : ἀποδύρεσθαι (ὑποδύρ. Lofft) Rend.

³ εἰ δόγματά ἔστι AD : ἀεὶ . . . ἔστω PC.

¹ cp. ii. 6 ; i. 17, § 6 ; Dio 71. 24, § 4. Marcus would be a little over 50. Contrast i. 17, § 6, and note. Croninwell when 51 writing from Dunbar says, "I grow an old man."

BOOK II

and not even that always the same, but every minute belched forth and again gulped down. Then, thirdly, there is the ruling Reason. Put thy thought thus : thou art an old man¹; let this be a thrall no longer, no more a puppet² pulled aside by every selfish impulse ; nor let it grumble any longer at what is allotted to it in the present or dread it in the future.

3. Full of Providence are the works of the Gods, nor are Fortune's works independent of Nature or of the woven texture and interlacement of all that is under the control of Providence. Thence³ are all things derived⁴; but Necessity too plays its part and the Welfare of the whole Universe of which thou art a portion. But good for every part of Nature is that which the Nature of the Whole brings about, and which goes to preserve it. Now it is the changes not only of the elements but of the things compounded of them that preserve the Universe. Let these reflections suffice thee, if thou hold them as principles. But away with thy thirst for books,⁵ that thou mayest die not murmuring but with a good grace, truly and from thy heart grateful to the Gods.

4. Call to mind how long thou deferrest these things, and how many times thou hast received from the Gods grace⁶ of the appointed day and thou usest it not. Yet now, if never before, shouldest thou realize of what Universe thou art a part, and as an emanation from what Controller of that Universe thou dost subsist ; and that a limit has been set to thy time, which if thou use not to let daylight

² iii. 16; vi. 16, 28; vii. 3, 29; xii. 19. cp. Clem. Alex. *Strom.* ii. 3; iv. 11. ³ vi. 36; xii. 26.

⁴ Referred to by Arethas on Dio Chrys. *Orat.* 32. 15 as πάντα ἀνωθεν βεῖ. cp. St. James, Ep. i. 17. ⁵ ii. 2.

⁶ προθεσμία lit. "a time-limit for enforcement of claims after which they lapsed."

MARCUS AURELIUS

μὴ χρήσῃ, οἰχήσεται, καὶ οἰχήσῃ, καὶ αὐθις οὐκ ἔξεσται.¹

έ'. Πάσης ὥρας φρόντιζε στιβαρῶς, ὡς Ἐρωμῆς καὶ ἄρρην, τὸ ἐν χερσὶ μετὰ τῆς ἀκριβοῦς καὶ ἀπλάστου σεμνότητος καὶ φιλοστοργίας καὶ ἐλευθερίας καὶ δικαιότητος πράσσειν· καὶ σχολὴν σαυτῷ ἀπὸ πασῶν τῶν ἄλλων φαντασιῶν πορίζειν. ποριεῖς δέ, ἀν ως ἐσχάτην τοῦ βίου ἐκάστην πρᾶξιν ἐνεργῆς ἀπηλλαγμένην πάσης εἰκαίστητος καὶ ἐμπαθοῦς ἀποστροφῆς ἀπὸ τοῦ αἴροντος λόγου καὶ ὑποκρίσεως καὶ φιλαυτίας καὶ δυσαρεστήσεως πρὸς τὰ συμμεμοιραμένα. ὁρᾶς, πῶς ὀλίγα ἐστίν, ὃν κρατήσας τις δύναται εὔρουν καὶ θεούδη βιώσαι βίον· καὶ γὰρ οἱ θεοὶ πλέον οὐδὲν ἀπαιτήσουσι παρὰ τοῦ ταῦτα φυλάσσοντος.

ς'. "Τβριζε, ὕβριζε² αὐτήν, ὡ ψυχή· τοῦ δὲ τιμῆσαι σεαυτὴν οὐκέτι καιρὸν ἔξεις· εἰς³ τ γὰρ ὁ βίος ἐκάστῳ· οὗτος δέ σοι σχεδὸν διήνυσται μὴ αἰδουμένη σεαυτήν, ἀλλ' ἐν ταῖς ἄλλων ψυχαῖς τιθεμένη τὴν σὴν εὔμοιρίαν.

ζ'. Περισπᾶ τί σε τὰ ἔξωθεν ἐμπίπτοντα; καὶ σχολὴν πάρεχε σεαυτῷ τοῦ προσμανθάνειν ἀγαθὸν τι, καὶ παῦσαι ρεμβόμενος. ἦδη δὲ καὶ τὴν ἑτέραν περιφορὰν φυλακτέον. ληροῦσι γὰρ καὶ διὰ πράξεων οἱ κεκμηκότες τῷ βίῳ καὶ μὴ ἔχοντες σκοπόν, ἐφ' ὅν πᾶσαν ὄρμὴν καὶ καθάπαξ φαντασίαν ἀπευθύνουσιν.

¹ ἔξεται P : ἔξεσται AD.

² ὕβριζεis Gat. (cp. § 16).

³ οὐ A : εῦ P : βραχὺs (cp. iv. 26) D : εἰs Boot.

¹ § 11 ; vii. 69 ; Sen. Ep. xii

² §§ 16, 17 ; iv. 2.

BOOK II

into thy soul, it will be gone—and thou!—and never again shall the chance be thine.

5. Every hour make up thy mind sturdily as a Roman and a man to do what thou hast in hand with scrupulous and unaffected dignity and love of thy kind and independence and justice; and to give thyself rest from all other impressions. And thou wilt give thyself this, if thou dost execute every act of thy life as though it were thy last,¹ divesting thyself of all aimlessness² and all passionate antipathy to the convictions of reason, and all hypocrisy and self-love and dissatisfaction with thy allotted share. Thou seest how few are the things, by mastering which a man may lead a life of tranquillity and godlikeness; for the Gods also will ask no more from him who keeps these precepts.

6. Wrong thyself,³ wrong thyself, O my Soul! But the time for honouring thyself will have gone by; for a man has but one life, and this for thee is well-nigh closed,⁴ and yet thou dost not hold thyself in reverence, but settest thy well-being in the souls of others.

7. Do those things draw thee at all away, which befall thee from without? Make then leisure for thyself for the learning of some good thing more, and cease being carried aside hither and thither. But therewith must thou take heed of the other error. For they too are triflers, who by their activities have worn themselves out in life without even having an aim whereto they can direct every impulse, aye and even every thought.

³ Apparently a sarcastic apostrophe, which is not in Marcus' usual manner.

⁴ ii. 2.

MARCUS AURELIUS

η'. Παρὰ μὲν τὸ μὴ ἐφιστάνειν, τί ἐν τῇ ἄλλου ψυχῇ γίνεται, οὐ ῥαδίως τις ὕφθη κακοδαιμονῶν· τοὺς δὲ τοῖς τῆς ἴδιας ψυχῆς κινήμασι μὴ παρακολουθοῦντας ἀνάγκη κακοδαιμονεῖν.

θ'. Τούτων ἀεὶ δεῖ μεμνῆσθαι, τίς ἡ τῶν ὅλων φύσις, καὶ τίς ἡ ἐμή, καὶ πῶς αὕτη πρὸς ἔκείνην ἔχουσα, καὶ ὅποιόν τι μέρος ὅποιον τοῦ ὅλου οὖσα· καὶ ὅτι οὐδεὶς ὁ κωλύων τὰ ἀκόλουθα τῇ φύσει, ἢς μέρος εἰ, πράσσειν τε ἀεὶ καὶ λέγειν.

ι'. Φιλοσόφως ὁ Θεόφραστος, ἐν τῇ συγκρίσει τῶν ἀμαρτημάτων, ὡς ἂν τις κοινότερον τὰ τοιαῦτα συγκρίνειε, φησὶ βαρύτερα εἶναι τὰ κατ' ἐπιθυμίαν πλημμελούμενα τῶν κατὰ θυμόν. ὁ γὰρ θυμούμενος μετά τινος λύπης καὶ λεληθυίας συστολῆς φαίνεται τὸν λόγον ἀποστρεφόμενος· ὁ δὲ κατ' ἐπιθυμίαν ἀμαρτάνων, ὑφ' ἡδονῆς ἡττώμενος, ἀκολαστότερος πως φαίνεται καὶ θηλύτερος ἐν ταῖς ἀμαρτίαις. ὅρθως οὖν καὶ φιλοσοφίας ἀξίως ἔφη, μείζονος ἐγκλήματος ἔχεσθαι τὸ μεθ' ἡδονῆς ἀμαρτανόμενον ἥπερ τὸ μετὰ λύπης· ὅλως τε ὁ μὲν προηδικημένῳ μᾶλλον ἔοικε καὶ διὰ λύπης ἡναγκασμένῳ θυμωθῆναι· ὁ δὲ αὐτόθεν πρὸς τὸ ἀδικεῖν ὥρμηται, φερόμενος ἐπὶ τὸ πρᾶξαι τι κατ' ἐπιθυμίαν.

ια'. Ὡς ἡδη δυνατοῦ ὄντος ἔξιέναι τοῦ βίου, οὕτως ἔκαστα ποιεῖν καὶ λέγειν καὶ διανοεῖσθαι. τὸ δὲ ἔξι ἀνθρώπων ἀπελθεῖν, εἰ μὲν θεοὶ εἰσίν,

¹ Here Marcus deviates from the strict Stoic doctrine, which allowed no degrees in faults.

² For συστολὴ cp. Diog. Laert. (*Zeno*) 63, ξλεος εἶναι πάθος καὶ συστολὴν ἄλογον. ³ abore, § 5.

BOOK II

8. Not easily is a man found to be unhappy by reason of his not regarding what is going on in another man's soul; but those who do not attend closely to the motions of their own souls must inevitably be unhappy.

9. This must always be borne in mind, what is the Nature of the whole Universe, and what mine, and how this stands in relation to that, being too what sort of a part of what sort of a whole; and that no one can prevent thee from doing and saying always what is in keeping with the Nature of which thou art a part.

10. Theophrastus in his comparison of wrong-doings—for, speaking in a somewhat popular way, such comparison may be made—says in the true philosophical spirit that the offences which are due to lust are more heinous than those which are due to anger.¹ For the man who is moved with anger seems to turn his back upon reason with some pain and unconscious compunction²; but he that does wrong from lust, being mastered by pleasure, seems in some sort to be more incontinent and more unmanly in his wrong-doing. Rightly then, and not unworthily of a philosopher, he said that the wrong-doing which is allied with pleasure calls for a severer condemnation than that which is allied with pain; and, speaking generally, that the one wrong-doer is more like a man, who, being sinned against first, has been driven by pain to be angry, while the other, being led by lust to do some act, has of his own motion been impelled to do evil.

11. Let thine every deed and word and thought be those of a man who can depart from life this moment.³ But to go away from among men, if

MARCUS AURELIUS

οὐδὲν δεινόν· κακῷ γάρ σε οὐκ ἀν περιβάλοιεν· εἰ δὲ ἡτοι οὐκ εἰσίν, ἢ οὐ μέλει αὐτοῖς τῶν ἀνθρωπίων, τί μοι ζῆν ἐν κόσμῳ κενῷ θεῶν ἢ προνοίας κενῷ; ἀλλὰ καὶ εἰσί, καὶ μέλει αὐτοῖς τῶν ἀνθρωπείων· καὶ τοῖς μὲν κατ' ἀλήθειαν κακοῖς ἵνα μὴ περιπίπτη ὁ ἀνθρωπος, ἐπ' αὐτῷ τὸ πᾶν ἔθεντο· τῶν δὲ λοιπῶν εἴ τι κακὸν ἦν, καὶ τοῦτο ἀν προείδοντο, ἵνα ἐπὶ παντὶ ἢ τὸ μὴ περιπίπτειν αὐτῷ. ὃ δὲ χείρω μὴ ποιεῖ ἀνθρωπον, πῶς ἀν τοῦτο βίον ἀνθρώπου χείρω ποιήσειεν; οὔτε δὲ κατ' ἄγνοιαν οὔτε εἰδυῖα μέν, μὴ δυναμένη δὲ προφυλάξασθαι ἢ διορθώσασθαι ταῦτα, ἢ τῶν ὅλων φύσις παρεῖδεν ἄν· οὔτε ἀν τηλικοῦτον ἥμαρτεν ἡτοι παρ' ἀδυναμίαν ἢ παρ' ἀτεχνίαν, ἵνα τὰ ἀγαθὰ καὶ τὰ κακὰ ἐπίσης τοῖς τε ἀγαθοῖς ἀνθρώποις καὶ τοῖς κακοῖς πεφυρμένως συμβαίνῃ. Θάνατος δέ γε καὶ ξωή, δόξα καὶ ἀδοξία, πόνος καὶ ἡδονή, πλοῦτος καὶ πενία, πάντα ταῦτα ἐπίσης συμβαίνει ἀνθρώπων τοῖς τε ἀγαθοῖς καὶ τοῖς κακοῖς οὔτε καλὰ ὅντα οὔτε αἰσχρά. οὗτ' ἄρ' ἀγαθὰ οὔτε κακά ἔστιν.

ιβ'. Πῶς πάντα ταχέως ἐναφαιίζεται, τῷ μὲν κόσμῳ αὐτὰ τὰ σώματα, τῷ δὲ αἰῶνι αἱ μνήμαι αὐτῶν· οἱά ἔστι τὰ αἰσθητὰ πάντα καὶ μάλιστα τὰ ἡδονῇ δελεάζοντα ἢ τῷ πόνῳ φοβοῦντα ἢ τῷ τύφῳ διαβεβοημένα, πῶς εὐτελῆ καὶ εὐκαταφρόνητα καὶ ρυπαρὰ καὶ εὐφθαρτα καὶ νεκρά, νοερᾶς δυνάμεως ἐφιστάναι. τί εἰσιν οὗτοι, ὧν αἱ ὑπολήψεις καὶ αἱ φωναὶ τὴν εὐδοξίαν <παρ-

¹ cp. Fronto, *de Nep.* Nab. p. 233.

² iv. 8.

BOOK II

there are Gods, is nothing dreadful ; for they would not involve thee in evil. But if indeed there are no Gods, or if they do not concern themselves with the affairs of men, what boots it for me to live in a Universe where there are no Gods, where Providence is not ? Nay, but there *are* Gods, and they *do* concern themselves with human things ;¹ and they have put it wholly in man's power not to fall into evils that are truly such. And had there been any evil in what lies beyond, for this too would they have made provision, that it should be in every man's power not to fall into it. But how can that make a man's life worse which does not make the man worse ?² Yet the Nature of the Whole could not have been guilty of an oversight from ignorance or, while cognizant of these things, through lack of power to guard against or amend them ; nor could it have gone so far amiss either from inability or unskilfulness, as to allow good and evil to fall without any discrimination alike upon the evil and the good. Still it is a fact that death and life, honour and dishonour, pain and pleasure, riches and penury, do among men one and all betide the Good and the Evil alike, being in themselves neither honourable nor shameful. Consequently they are neither good nor evil.

12. How quickly all things vanish away, in the Universe their actual bodies, and the remembrance of them in Eternity, and of what character are all objects of sense, and particularly those that entice us with pleasure or terrify us with pain or are acclaimed by vanity—how worthless and despicable and unclean and ephemeral and dead !—this is for our faculty of intelligence to apprehend ; as also what they really are whose conceptions and whose voices award

MARCUS AURELIUS

έχουσι>.¹ τί ἔστι τὸ ἀποθανεῖν, καὶ ὅτι, ἐάν τις αὐτὸ μόνον ἴδῃ καὶ τῷ μερισμῷ τῆς ἐννοίας διαλύσῃ τὰ ἐμφανταξόμενα αὐτῷ, οὐκέτι ἄλλο τι ὑπολήψεται αὐτὸ εἶναι ἡ φύσεως ἔργον· φύσεως δὲ ἔργον εἴ τις φοβεῖται, παιδίον ἔστιν· τοῦτο μέντοι οὐ μόνον φύσεως ἔργον ἔστιν, ἄλλὰ καὶ συμφέρουν αὐτῇ. πῶς ἄπτεται θεοῦ ἀνθρωπος, καὶ κατὰ τέ ἑαυτοῦ μέρος, καὶ τόταν πῶς [ἔχη] διακέπται² τὸ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου τοῦτο μόριον.

ιγ'. Οὐδὲν ἀθλιώτερον τοῦ πάντα κύκλῳ ἐκπερεερχομένου, καὶ "τὰ νέρθεν γᾶς," φησίν, "ἐρευνῶντος," καὶ τὰ ἐν ταῖς ψυχαῖς τῶν πλησίον διὰ τεκμάρσεως ζητοῦντος, μὴ αἰσθομένου δέ, ὅτι ἀρκεῖ πρὸς μόνω τῷ ἔνδον ἑαυτοῦ δάιμονι εἶναι καὶ τοῦτον γηγένειας θεραπεύειν. θεραπεία δὲ αὐτοῦ, καθαρὸς πάθους διατηρεῖν καὶ εἰκαίστητος καὶ δυσαρεστήσεως τῆς πρὸς τὰ ἐκ θεῶν καὶ ἀνθρώπων γινόμενα. τὰ μὲν γὰρ ἐκ θεῶν αἰδέσιμα δι' ἀρετῆν· τὰ δὲ ἔξ ἀνθρώπων φίλα διὰ συγγένειαν, ἔστι δὲ ὅτε καὶ τρόπον τινὰ ἐλεεινὰ δι' ἄγνοιαν ἀγαθῶν καὶ κακῶν· οὐκ ἐλάττων ἡ πήρωσις αὕτη τῆς στερισκούσης τοῦ διακρίνειν τὰ λευκὰ καὶ μέλανα.

ιδ'. Καν τρισχίλια ἔτη βιώσεσθαι μέλλης, καὶ τοσαυτάκις μύρια, ὅμως μέμνησο ὅτι οὐδεὶς ἄλλον

¹ <παρέχουσι> Gat.

² τις ἔχη διακαίηται A : ἔχη η διακ. Cor. : ποσαχῆ Radermacher.

¹ Pindar, *Frag.* (see Plato, *Theaet.* 173 E).

² § 17 ; iii. 6, 16. cpr. Shaks. *Temp.* ii. l. 275 : "Conscience, this deity in my bosom." The δαιμόνιον of Socrates is well known.

BOOK II

renown ; what it is to die, and that if a man look at death in itself, and with the analysis of reason strip it of its phantom terrors, no longer will he conceive it to be aught but a function of Nature,—but if a man be frightened by a function of Nature, he is childish ; and this is not only Nature's function but her welfare ;—and how man is in touch with God and with what part of himself, and in what disposition of this portion of the man.

13. Nothing can be more miserable than the man who goes through the whole round of things, and, as the poet¹ says, *pries into the secrets of the earth*, and would fain guess the thoughts in his neighbour's heart, while having no conception that he needs but to associate himself with the divine 'genius' in his bosom,² and to serve it truly. And service of it is to keep it pure from passion and aimlessness and discontent with anything that proceeds from Gods or men. For that which proceeds from the Gods is worthy of reverence in that it is excellent ; and that which proceeds from men, of love, in that they are akin, and, at times and in a manner,³ of compassion, in that they are ignorant of good and evil—a defect this no less than the loss of power to distinguish between white and black.

14. Even if thy life is to last three thousand years or for the matter of that thirty thousand, yet bear in mind that no one ever parts with any other life than

¹ Marcus qualifies his departure from the strict Stoic view, for which see Seneca *de Clem.* ii. 4–6, where he calls pity pusillanimity, and says *sapiens non miserebitur sed succurret*. Marcus was far from a Stoic in this, see Herodian i. 4, § 2. See above, p. xiii.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἀποβάλλει βίον ἢ τοῦτον δν ζῆ· οὐδὲ ἄλλον ζῆ ἢ δν
ἀποβάλλει. εἰς ταῦτο οὖν καθίσταται τὸ μῆκιστον τῷ βραχυτάτῳ. τὸ γὰρ παρὸν πᾶσιν ἵσον, καὶ τὸ ἀπολλύμενον οὐκ ἴδιον¹ καὶ τὸ ἀποβαλλόμενον οὗτως ἀκαριαῖον ἀναφαίνεται. οὗτε γὰρ τὸ παρωχηκὸς οὗτε τὸ μέλλον ἀποβάλλοι ἄν τις. ὃ γὰρ οὐκ ἔχει, πῶς ἀν τοῦτο τις αὐτοῦ ἀφέλοιτο; τούτων οὖν τῶν δύο δεῦ μεμνήσθαι· ἐνὸς μέν, ὅτι πάντα ἔξ ἀιδίου ὁμοειδῆ καὶ ἀνακυκλούμενα, καὶ οὐδὲν διαφέρει πότερον ἐν ἑκατὸν ἔτεσιν ἢ ἐν διακοσίοις ἢ ἐν τῷ ἀπείρῳ χρόνῳ τὰ αὐτά τις ὅψεται· ἔτέρου δέ, ὅτι καὶ ὁ πολυχρονιώτατος καὶ ὁ τάχιστα τεθνηξόμενος τὸ ἵσον ἀποβάλλει. τὸ γὰρ παρὸν ἔστι μόνον, οὐ στερίσκεσθαι μέλλει, εἴπερ γε ἔχει καὶ τοῦτο μόνον καί, ὃ μὴ ἔχει τις, οὐκ ἀποβάλλει.

ιε'. "Οτι πᾶν ὑπόληψις. δῆλα μὲν γὰρ τὰ πρὸς τὸν Κυνικὸν Μόνιμον λεγόμενα· δῆλον δὲ καὶ τὸ χρήσιμον τοῦ λεγομένου, ἔάν τις αὐτοῦ τὸ νόστιμον μέχρι τοῦ ἀληθοῦς δέχηται.

ιι'. "Τβρίζει ἔαυτὴν ἢ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ψυχή, μάλιστα μέν, ὅταν ἀπόστημα καὶ οἰον φῦμα τοῦ κόσμου, ὅσον ἐφ' ἔαυτῇ, γένηται. τὸ γὰρ δυσχεραίνειν τινὶ τῶν γινομένων ἀπόστασίς ἔστι τῆς φύσεως, ἡς ἐν μέρει <αἱ> ἔκάστου τῶν λοιπῶν φύσεις περιέχονται· ἔπειτα δέ, ὅταν ἀνθρωπὸν τινα ἀποστραφῇ, ἢ καὶ ἐναντία φέρηται, ώς

¹ οὐκ PA : οὖν Gat. : ἵσον PAD : ἴδιον Schenkl.

¹ iii. 10.

² Sen. Nat. Q. vi. 32 ad fin.

³ xii. 36.

⁴ τῦφον εἶναι τὰ πάντα, Menander, Frag. 249, Kock (Diog.

BOOK II

the one he is now living,¹ nor lives any other than that which he now parts with. The longest life, then, and the shortest amount but to the same. For the present time is of equal duration for all, while that which we lose is not ours ;² and consequently what is parted with is obviously a mere moment. No man can part with either the past or the future. For how can a man be deprived of what he does not possess ? These two things, then, must needs be remembered : the one, that all things from time everlasting have been cast in the same mould and repeated cycle after cycle, and so it makes no difference whether a man see the same things recur through a hundred years or two hundred,³ or through eternity : the other, that the longest liver and he whose time to die comes soonest part with no more the one than the other. For it is but the present that a man can be deprived of, if, as is the fact, it is this alone that he has, and what he has not a man cannot part with.

15. Remember that everything is but what we think it. For obvious indeed is the saying fathered on Monimus the Cynic, obvious too the utility of what was said,⁴ if one accept the gist of it as far as it is true.

16. The soul of man does wrong to itself then most of all, when it makes itself, as far as it can do so, an imposthume and as it were a malignant growth in the Universe.¹ For to grumble at anything that happens is a rebellion against Nature, in some part of which are bound up the natures of all other things.² And the soul wrongs itself then again, when it turns away from any man or even opposes him with

Laert. vi. 3, § 2) ; Sext. Empir. (*Adv. Log.* ii. 1) attributes the saying to Monimus.

MARCUS AURELIUS

βλάψουσα, οἰαί εἰσιν αἱ τῶν ὀργιζομένων. τρίτον
ὑβρίζει ἔαυτήν, ὅταν ἡσσᾶται ἡδονῆς ἢ πόνου.
τέταρτον, ὅταν ὑποκρίνηται καὶ ἐπιπλάστως καὶ
ἀναλήθως. τι ποιῇ ἢ λέγῃ. πέμπτον, ὅταν πρᾶξίν
τινα ἔαυτῆς καὶ ὄρμὴν ἐπ' οὐδένα σκοπὸν ἀφιῇ,
ἄλλὰ εἰκῇ καὶ ἀπαρακολουθήτως ὅτιοῦν ἐνεργῇ,
δέον καὶ τὰ μικρότατα κατὰ τὴν ἐπὶ τὸ τέλος
ἀναφορὰν γίνεσθαι· τέλος δὲ λογικῶν ζώων,
τὸ ἔπεσθαι τῷ τῆς πόλεως καὶ πολιτείας τῆς
πρεσβυτάτης λόγῳ καὶ θεσμῷ.

ιζ. Τοῦ ἀνθρωπίνου βίου ὁ μὲν χρόνος,
στιγμή, ἡ δὲ οὐσία ρέουσα, ἡ δὲ αἰσθησις
ἀμυδρά, ἡ δὲ ὄλου τοῦ σώματος σύγκρισις
εὔσηπτος, ἡ δὲ ψυχὴ ρόμβος, ἡ δὲ τύχη
δυστέκμαρτον, ἡ δὲ φήμη ἄκριτον· συνελόντι
δὲ εἰπεῖν, πάντα τὰ μὲν τοῦ σώματος ποταμός,
τὰ δὲ τῆς ψυχῆς ὄνειρος καὶ τῦφος· ὁ δὲ βίος
πόλεμος καὶ ξένου ἐπιδημία· ἡ δὲ ὑστεροφημία
λήθη. τί οὖν τὸ παραπέμψαι δυνάμενον; ἐν
καὶ μόνον φιλοσοφίᾳ. τοῦτο δὲ ἐν τῷ τηρεῖν
τὸν ἔνδον δαίμονα ἀνύβριστον καὶ ἀσινή, ἡδονῶν
καὶ πόνων κρείσσονα, μηδὲν εἰκῇ ποιοῦντα μηδὲ
διεψευσμένως καὶ μεθ' ὑποκρίσεως, ἀνενδεή τοῦ
ἄλλον ποιῆσαι τι ἢ μὴ ποιῆσαι· ἔτι δὲ τὰ συμ-
βαίνοντα καὶ ἀπονεμόμενα δεχόμενον, ὡς ἐκεῖθέν
ποθεν ἐρχόμενα δῆθεν αὐτὸς ἡλθεν· ἐπὶ πᾶσι δὲ
τὸν θάνατον ἵλεω τῇ γνώμῃ περιμένοντα, ὡς
οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἢ λύσιν τῶν στοιχείων ἔξ ὧν ἔκαστον
ζῷον συγκρίνεται. εἰ δὲ αὐτοῖς τοῦς στοιχείους

¹ cp. Eur. Frag. 107: δταν γλυκείας ἡδονῆς ἡσσων τις ἦ.

² Aristides Paneg. ad Cyzic. § 427 (Jebh), δ γὰρ λογισμὸς

BOOK II

intent to do him harm, as is the case with those who are angry.³ It does wrong to itself, thirdly, when it is overcome by pleasure¹ or pain.⁴ Fourthly, when it assumes a mask, and in act or word is insincere or untruthful.⁵ Fifthly, when it directs some act or desire of its own towards no mark, and expends its energy on any thing whatever aimlessly and unadvisedly, whereas even the most trifling things should be done with reference to the end in view. Now the end for rational beings is to submit themselves to the reason and law of that archetypal city and polity²—the Universe.

17. Of the life of man the duration is but a point, its substance streaming away, its perception dim, the fabric of the entire body prone to decay, and the soul a vortex, and fortune incalculable, and fame uncertain. In a word all the things of the body are as a river, and the things of the soul as a dream and a vapour; and life is a warfare and a pilgrim's sojourn, and fame after death is only forgetfulness. What then is it that can help us on our way? One thing and one alone—Philosophy; and this consists in keeping the divine 'genius' within pure³ and unwronged, lord of all pleasures and pains, doing nothing aimlessly⁴ or with deliberate falsehood and hypocrisy, independent of another's action or inaction; and furthermore welcoming what happens and is allotted, as issuing from the same source, whatever it be, from which the man himself has issued; and above all waiting for death with a good grace as being but a setting free of the elements of which every thing living is made up. But if there

αὐτῶν (Marcus and Lucius) θεῖος καὶ ὡς ἀληθῶς ξυωθεν ἔχων τὸ παράδειγμα, καὶ πρὸς ἐκείνην δρῶν τὴν πολιτείαν.

³ § 13. ⁴ § 5, 16.

MARCUS AURELIUS

μηδὲν δεινὸν ἐν τῷ ἔκαστον διηνεκῶς εἰς ἔτερον
μεταβάλλειν, διὰ τί ὑπίδηται τις τὴν πάντων
μεταβολὴν καὶ διάλυσιν; κατὰ φύσιν γάρ
οὐδὲν δὲ κακὸν κατὰ φύσιν.

Tὰ ἐν Καρνούντῳ.¹

¹ These words may very possibly be intended as a heading for Book III.

BOOK II

be nothing terrible in each thing being continuously changed into another thing, why should a man look askance at the change and dissolution of all things? For it is in the way of Nature, and in the way of Nature there can be no evil.

Written at Carnuntum.¹

¹ Now Haimburg in Hungary.

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ Γ

α'. Οὐχὶ τοῦτο μόνον δεῖ λογίζεσθαι ὅτι καθ' ἑκάστην ἡμέραν ἀπαναλίσκεται ὁ βίος καὶ μέρος ἔλαττον αὐτοῦ καταλείπεται· ἀλλὰ κάκεῖνο λογιστέον ὅτι, εἰ ἐπὶ πλέον βιώῃ τις, ἐκεῖνό γε ἄδηλον, εἰ ἔξαρκέσει ὁμοία αὐθις ἡ διάνοια πρὸς τὴν σύνεσιν τῶν πραγμάτων καὶ τῆς θεωρίας τῆς συντεινούσης εἰς τὴν ἐμπειρίαν τῶν τε θείων καὶ τῶν ἀνθρωπείων. ἐὰν γὰρ παραληρεῖν ἄρξηται, τὸ μὲν διαπνεῖσθαι καὶ τρέφεσθαι καὶ φαντάζεσθαι καὶ ὄρμᾶν καὶ ὅσα ἄλλα τοιαῦτα οὐκ ἐνδεήσει. τὸ δὲ ἔαυτῷ χρῆσθαι, καὶ τοὺς τοῦ καθήκοντος ἀριθμοὺς ἀκριβοῦν, καὶ τὰ προφαινόμενα διαρθροῦν, καὶ περὶ αὐτοῦ τοῦ, εἰ ἥδη ἔξακτέον αὐτόν, ἐφιστάνειν, καὶ ὅσα τοιαῦτα λογισμοῦ συγγεγυμνασμένου πάνυ χρήζει, προ-
αποσβέννυται. χρὴ οὖν ἐπείγεσθαι, οὐ μόνον τῷ

¹ vi. 16. Arist. *Probl.* i. 21 ὅπερ ἐν τῷ θώρακι ἀναπνοή, τοῦτο ἐν τῷ σώματι διαπνοὴ διὰ τῶν ἀρτηριῶν (arterial breathing).

² cpr. Sen. *Ep.* 60 vivit is qui se uititur. ³ vi. 26.

⁴ x. 8, § 3. The right of suicide was part of the Stoic creed (Zeno and Cleanthes both took their own lives). Marcus allows it when circumstances make it impossible for a man to live his true life (v. 29; viii. 47; x. 8. cpr. Epict. i. 24, § 20; i. 25, § 18). Hadrian (*Digest* 28. 3. 6, § 7)

BOOK III

1. We ought not to think only upon the fact that our life each day is waning away, what is left of it being ever less, but this also should be a subject for thought, that even if life be prolonged, yet is it uncertain whether the mind will remain equally fitted in the future for the understanding of facts and for that contemplation which strains after the knowledge of things divine and human. For if a man has entered upon his dotage, there will still be his the power of breathing,¹ and digestion, and thought, and desire, and all such-like faculties; but the full use of himself,² the accurate appreciation of the items³ of duty, the nice discrimination of what presents itself to the senses, and a clear judgment on the question whether it is time for him to end his own life,⁴ and all such decisions, as above all require well-trained powers of reasoning—these are already flickering out in him. It needs, then, that we should press onwards, not only because

enumerates as causes of suicide *taedium vitae, valetudinis adversae impatientia, iactatio* (in the case of certain philosophers). Marcus himself, if Dio (71. 30, § 2) is to be trusted, threatened, in a letter to the Senate, to commit suicide, and according to Capitolinus (xxviii. 3) actually hastened his own death by abstaining from food.

MARCUS AURELIUS

έγγυτέρω τοῦ θανάτου ἐκάστοτε γίνεσθαι, ἀλλὰ καὶ διὰ τὸ τὴν ἐννόησιν τῶν πραγμάτων καὶ τὴν παρακολούθησιν προαπολήγειν.

β. Χρὴ καὶ τὰ τοιαῦτα παραφυλάσσειν, ὅτι καὶ τὰ ἐπιγινόμενα τοῖς φύσει γινομένοις ἔχει τι εὐχαρι καὶ ἐπαγωγόν. οἰον ἄρτου ὁπτωμένου παραρρήγνυταί τινα μέρη, καὶ ταῦτα οὖν τὰ διέχοντα οὔτως, καὶ τρόπον τινὰ παρὰ τὸ ἐπάγγελμα τῆς ἄρτοποιίας ἔχοντα, ἐπιπρέπει πως καὶ προθυμίαν πρὸς τὴν τροφὴν ἵδιως ἀνακινεῖ. πάλιν τε τὰ σύκα, ὅπότε ὥραιότατά ἐστι, κέχηνεν. καὶ ἐν ταῖς δρυπεπέσιν ἐλαίαις αὐτὸ τὸ ἐγγὺς τῇ σήψει ἵδιόν τι κάλλος τῷ καρπῷ προστίθησιν. καὶ οἱ στάχυες κάτω νεύοντες, καὶ τὸ τοῦ λέοντος ἐπισκύνιον, καὶ ὁ τῶν συῶν ἐκ τοῦ στόματος ῥέων ἀφρός, καὶ πολλὰ ἔτερα, κατ' ἵδιαν εἴ τις σκοποῖη, πόρρω δύντα τοῦ εὐειδοῦς, ὅμως διὰ τὸ τοῖς φύσει γινομένοις ἐπακολουθεῖν συνεπικοσμεῖ καὶ ψυχαγωγεῖ.

2 "Ωστε, εἴ τις ἔχει πάθος καὶ ἔννοιαν βαθυτέραν πρὸς τὰ ἐν τῷ ὅλῳ γινόμενα, σχεδὸν οὐδὲν οὐχὶ δόξει αὐτῷ καὶ τῶν κατ' ἐπακολούθησιν συμβαινόντων ἡδέως πως ἵδια συνίστασθαι.¹ οὐτος δὲ καὶ θηρίων ἀληθῆ χάσματα οὐχ ἡσσον ἡδέως ὅψεται ἢ ὅσα γραφεῖς καὶ πλάσται μμούμενοι δεικνύουσιν· καὶ γραὸς καὶ γέροντος ἀκμῆν τινα καὶ ὥραν καὶ τὸ ἐν παισὶν ἐπαφρόδιτον

¹ Loft for διασυνίστασθαι PA.

¹ A very fine early medallion shows Marcus in full chase after a wild boar (Grueber, Plate xviii.). *cpr.* Dio 71. 36, § 2, σὺς ἀγρίους ἐν θήρᾳ κατέβαλλεν ἀπὸ Ἰππου; Fronto, *ad Cæs.* iii. 20; iv. 5; Capit. iv. 9.

BOOK III

we come each moment nearer to death, but also because our insight into facts and our close touch of them is gradually ceasing even before we die.

2. Such things as this also we ought to note with care, that the accessories too of natural operations have a charm and attractiveness of their own. For instance, when bread is in the baking, some of the parts split open, and these very fissures, though in a sense thwarting the bread-maker's design, have an appropriateness of their own and in a peculiar way stimulate the desire for food. Again when figs are at their ripest, they gape open; and in olives that are ready to fall their very approach to over-ripeness gives a peculiar beauty to the fruit. And the full ears of corn bending downwards, and the lion's beetling brows, and the foam dripping from the jaws of the wild-boar,¹ and many other things, though, if looked at apart from their setting, they are far from being comely, yet, as resultants from the operations of Nature, lend them an added charm and excite our admiration.

And so, if a man has sensibility and a deeper insight into the workings of the Universe, scarcely anything, though it exist only as a secondary consequence to something else, but will seem to him to form in its own peculiar way a pleasing adjunct to the whole. And he will look on the actual gaping jaws² of wild beasts³ with no less pleasure than the representations of them by limners and modellers; and he will be able to see in the aged of either sex a mature prime and comely ripeness, and gaze with chaste eyes

² iv. 36.

³ Such are the things Marcus noticed in the amphitheatre, and not the bloodshed which his soul abhorred (Dio 71. 29, § 3).

MARCUS AURELIUS

τοῖς ἑαυτοῦ σώφροσιν ὁφθαλμοῖς ὄρâν δυνήσεται· καὶ πολλὰ τοιαῦτα οὐ παντὶ πιθανά, μόνῳ δὲ τῷ πρὸς τὴν φύσιν καὶ τὰ ταύτης ἔργα γνησίως ὥκειωμένῳ προσπεσεῖται.

γ'. Ἰπποκράτης πολλὰς νόσους ἰασάμενος αὐτὸς νοσήσας ἀπέθανεν. οἱ Χαλδαῖοι πολλῶν θανάτους προηγόρευσαν, εἴτα καὶ αὐτοὺς τὸ πεπρωμένον κατέλαβεν. Ἀλέξανδρος καὶ Πομπήιος καὶ Γάϊος Καίσαρ ὅλας πόλεις ἄρδην τοσαυτάκις ἀνελόντες καὶ ἐν παρατάξει πολλὰς μυριάδας ἵππεων καὶ πεζῶν κατακόψαντες καὶ αὐτοί ποτε ἔξῆλθον τοῦ βίου. Ἡράκλειτος περὶ τῆς τοῦ κόσμου ἐκπυρώσεως τοσαῦτα φυσιολογίσας ὕδατος τὰ ἐντὸς πληρωθεὶς βολβίτῳ κατεχρισμένος ἀπέθανεν. Δημόκριτον δὲ οἱ φθεῖρες, Σωκράτην δὲ ἄλλοι φθεῖρες ἀπέκτειναν.

2 Τί ταῦτα; ἐνέβης, ἔπλευσας, κατήχθης· ἔκβηθι. εἰ μὲν ἐφ' ἔτερον βίον, οὐδὲν θεῶν κενὸν οὐδὲ ἐκεῖ· εἰ δὲ ἐν ἀναισθησίᾳ, παύσῃ πόνων καὶ ἡδονῶν ἀνεχόμενος καὶ λατρεύων τοσούτῳ χείροις τῷ ἀγγείῳ τὴν πέρη ἐστί¹ τὸ ὑπηρετοῦν· τὸ μὲν γὰρ νοῦς καὶ δαίμων, τὸ δὲ γῆ καὶ λύθρος.

δ'. Μὴ κατατρίψῃς τὸ ὑπολειπόμενον τοῦ βίου μέρος ἐν ταῖς περὶ ἔτέρων φαντασίαις, ὅπόταν μὴ τὴν ἀναφορὰν ἐπί τι κοινωφελὲς ποιῇ. ἦτοι γὰρ ἄλλου ἔργου στέρη, τουτέστι φανταζό-

¹ ἢ (ἢ Α) περίεστι PC : ἢ πέρ εστι D.

¹ iv. 48.

² Told of Pherecydes (Diog. Laert. *Pher.* v., viii.), of Speusippus (*Speus.* ix.), and even of Plato (*Plato* xxix.), but not elsewhere of Democritus. Lucian (?), *Macrob.* 15, says Democritus died of starvation aged 104.

BOOK III

upon the alluring loveliness of the young. And many such things there are which do not appeal to everyone, but will come home to him alone who is genuinely intimate with Nature and her works.

3. Hippocrates, after healing many a sick man, fell sick himself and died. Many a death have Chaldaeans foretold, and then their own fate has overtaken them also.¹ Alexander, Pompeius and Gaius Caesar times without number utterly destroyed whole cities, and cut to pieces many myriads of horse and foot on the field of battle, yet the day came when they too departed this life. Heraclitus, after endless speculations on the destruction of the world by fire, came to be filled internally with water, and died plastered with cowdung. And lice caused the death of Democritus,² and other vermin of Socrates.

What of this? Thou hast gone aboard, thou hast set sail, thou hast touched land; go ashore; if indeed for another life, there is nothing even there void of Gods; but if to a state of non-sensation,³ thou shalt cease being at the mercy of pleasure and pain and lackeying the bodily vessel⁴ which is so much baser than that which ministers to it. For the one is intelligence and a divine 'genius,' the other dust and putrescence.

4. Fritter not away what is left of thy life in thoughts about others, unless thou canst bring these thoughts into relation with some common interest. For verily thou dost hereby cut thyself off from other work, that is, by thinking what so and so is

¹ cp. Justin, *Apol.* i. §§ 18, 57.

² So was *animi* Cic. *Tusc.* i. 22, § 52. cp. St. Paul, 1 Thess. iv. 4 (*σκεῦος*); Dio Chrys. *Or.* xii. 404 R. ἀνθρώπινον σῶμα ὡς ἀγγεῖον φρονήσεως καὶ λόγου.

MARCUS AURELIUS

μενος τί ὁ δεῦνα πράσσει καὶ τίνος ἔνεκεν καὶ τί λέγει καὶ τί ἐνθυμεῖται καὶ τί τεχνάζεται καὶ ὅσα τοιαῦτα ποιεῖ ἀπορρέμβεσθαι τῆς τοῦ ἴδιου ἡγεμονικοῦ παρατηρήσεως.

- 2 Χρὴ μὲν οὖν καὶ τὸ εἰκῆ καὶ μάτην ἐν τῷ εἰρμῷ τῶν φαντασιῶν περιέστασθαι, πολὺ δὲ μάλιστα τὸ περιέργον καὶ κακόηθες· καὶ ἐθιστέον ἑαυτὸν μόνα φαντάζεσθαι, περὶ ὃν εἴ τις ἄφνω ἐπανέροιτο· “Τί νῦν διανοῇ;” μετὰ παρρησίας παραχρῆμα ἀν ἀποκρίναιο, ὅτι τὸ καὶ τό· ὡς ἔξ αὐτῶν εὐθὺς δῆλα εἶναι, ὅτι πάντα ἀπλᾶ καὶ εὐμενῆ, καὶ ζώου κοινωνικοῦ καὶ ἀμελοῦντος ἥδονικῶν ἥ καθάπαξ ἀπολαυστικῶν φαντασμάτων ἥ φιλονεικίας τινὸς ἥ βασκανίας καὶ ὑποψίας ἥ ἄλλου τινὸς ἐφ' ὡς ἀν ἐρυθριάσεις ἐξηγούμενος, ὅτι ἐν νῷ αὐτὸς εἶχες.
- 3 ‘Ο γάρ τοι ἀνὴρ ὁ τοιοῦτος, οὐκ ἔτι ὑπερτιθέμενος τὸ ὡς ἐν ἀρίστοις ἥδη εἶναι, ἵερεύς τίς ἔστι καὶ ὑπουργὸς θεῶν, χρώμενος καὶ τῷ ἔνδον ἰδρυμένῳ αὐτῷ, δι παρέχεται τὸν ἄνθρωπον ἄχραντον ἥδονῶν, ἄτρωτον ὑπὸ παντὸς πόνου, πάσης ὕβρεως ἀνέπαφον, πάσης ἀναίσθητον πονηρίας, ἀθλητὴν ἄθλου τοῦ μεγίστου, τοῦ ὑπὸ μηδενὸς πάθους καταβληθῆναι, δικαιοσύνῃ· βεβαμένον εἰς βάθος, ἀσπαζόμενον μὲν ἔξ ὅλης τῆς ψυχῆς τὰ συμβαίνοντα καὶ ἀπονεμόμενα πάντα, μὴ πολλάκις δὲ μηδὲ χωρὶς μεγάλης καὶ κοινωφελοῦς ἀνάγκης φανταζόμενον, τί ποτε ἄλλος λέγει ἥ πράσσει ἥ διανοεῖται. μόνα γάρ

¹ ii. 5.

² cp. Fronto, *ad Am.* i. 12: *nullum est factum meum dictumve quod clam ceteris esse velim: quia cuius rei mihimet*

BOOK III

doing and why, what he is saying, having what in mind, contriving what, and all the many like things such as whirl thee aside from keeping close watch over thine own ruling Reason.

We ought therefore to eschew the aimless¹ and the unprofitable in the chain of our thoughts, still more all that is over-curious and ill-natured, and a man should accustom himself to think only of those things about which, if one were to ask on a sudden, *What is now in thy thoughts?* thou couldest quite frankly answer at once, *This or that*; so that thine answer should immediately make manifest that all that is in thee is simple and kindly and worthy of a living being that is social and has no thought for pleasures or for the entire range of sensual images, or for any rivalry, envy, suspicion, or anything else, whereat thou wouldest blush to admit that thou hadst it in thy mind.²

For in truth such a man, one who no longer puts off being reckoned now, if never before, among the best, is in some sort a priest and minister of the Gods, putting to use also that which, enthroned within him,³ keeps the man unstained by pleasures, invulnerable to all pain, beyond the reach of any wrong, proof against all evil, a champion in the highest of championships—that of never being overthrown by any passion—dyed in grain with justice, welcoming with all his soul everything that befalls and is allotted him, and seldom, nor yet without a great and a general necessity, concerning himself with the words or deeds or thoughts of another.

ipse conscientius sim, ceteros quoque omnes iuxta mecum scire velim.

¹ ii. 13. 17; iii. 6. 16.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τὰ ἑαυτοῦ πρὸς ἐνέργειαν ἔχει,¹ καὶ τὰ ἑαυτῷ ἐκ τῶν ὅλων συγκλωθόμενα διηνεκῶς ἐννοεῖ· κάκεῖνα μὲν καλὰ παρέχεται, ταῦτα δὲ ἀγαθὰ εἶναι πέπεισται. ή γὰρ ἐκάστῳ νεμομένῃ μοῖρα συνεμφέρεται τε καὶ συνεμφέρει.

4 Μέμνηται δὲ καὶ ὅτι συγγενὲς πᾶν τὸ λογικόν, καὶ ὅτι κήδεσθαι μὲν πάντων ἀνθρώπων κατὰ τὴν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου φύσιν ἐστί· δόξης δὲ οὐχὶ τῆς παρὰ πάντων ἀνθεκτέον ἀλλὰ τῶν ὁμολογουμένων τῇ φύσει βιούντων μόνων. οἱ δὲ μὴ οὕτως βιοῦντες, ὃποιοί τινες οἴκοι τε καὶ ἔξω τῆς οἰκίας, καὶ νύκτωρ καὶ μεθ' ἡμέραν, οἷοι μεθ' οἴων φύρονται, μεμνημένος διατελεῖ. οὐ τοίνυν οὐδὲ τὸν παρὰ τῶν τοιούτων ἔπαινον ἐν λόγῳ τίθεται, οὕγε οὐδὲ αὐτοὶ ἑαυτοῖς ἀρέσκονται.

ε'. Μήτε ἀκούσιος ἐνέργει μήτε ἀκοινώνητος μήτε ἀνεξέταστος μήτε ἀνθελκόμενος· μήτε κομψεία τὴν διάνοιάν σου καλλωπιζέτω· μήτε πολυρρήμων μήτε πολυπράγμων ἔσο. ἔτι δὲ ὁ ἐν σοὶ θεὸς ἐστω προστάτης ζώου ἄρρενος, καὶ πρεσβύτου καὶ πολιτικοῦ καὶ Ῥωμαίου καὶ ἄρχοντος ἀνατεταχότος ἑαυτόν, οἷος ἀν· εἴη τις περιμένων τὸ ἀνακλητικὸν ἐκ τοῦ βίου εὔλυτος, μήτε ὄρκου δεόμενος μήτε ἀνθρώπου τινὸς μάρτυρος. ἐν δὲ τὸ φαιδρὸν² καὶ τὸ ἀπροσδεές ἔξωθεν ὑπηρεσίας καὶ τὸ ἀπροσδεές ἡσυχίας, ἦν ἄλλοι παρέχουσιν. ὄρθὸν οὖν εἶναι χρή, οὐχὶ ὄρθούμενον.

¹ ἔξει ADC. ² ἐν δὲ τὸ φαινόμενον AD : έτι Morus.

BOOK III

For it is only the things which relate to himself that he brings within the scope of his activities, and he never ceases to ponder over what is being spun for him as his share in the fabric of the Universe, and he sees to it that the former are worthy, and is assured that the latter is good. For the fate which is allotted to each man is swept along with him in the Universe as well as sweeps him along with it.¹

And he bears in mind that all that is rational is akin, and that it is in man's nature to care for all men, and that we should not embrace the opinion of all, but of those alone who live in conscious agreement with Nature. But what sort of men they, whose life is not after this pattern, are at home and abroad, by night and in the day, in what vices they wallow and with whom—of this he is ever mindful. Consequently he takes no account of praise from such men, who in fact cannot even win their own approval.

5. Do that thou doest neither unwillingly nor selfishly nor without examination nor against the grain. Dress not thy thought in too fine a garb. Be not a man of superfluous words or superfluous deeds. Moreover let the god that is in thee² be lord of a living creature, that is manly, and of full age, and concerned with statecraft, and a Roman, and a ruler, who hath taken his post as one who awaits the signal of recall from life in all readiness, needing no oath nor any man as his voucher. Be thine the cheery face and independence of help³ from without and independence of such ease as others can give. It needs then to stand, and not be set, upright.⁴

¹ Or, more abstractly, *is conditioned no less than conditions.*

² ii. 13. 17; iii. 6.

³ But see vii. 7.

⁴ i. 15, § 3; vii. 12.

MARCUS AURELIUS

σ'. Εἰ μὲν κρεῖττον εύρισκεις ἐν τῷ ἀνθρωπίνῳ βίῳ δικαιοσύνης, ἀληθείας, σωφροσύνης, ἀνδρείας, καὶ καθάπαξ τοῦ ἀρκεῖσθαι ἑαυτῇ τὴν διάνοιάν σου ἐν οἷς κατὰ τὸν λόγον τὸν ὄρθον πράσσοντά σε παρέχεται, καὶ τῇ εἰμαρμένῃ ἐν τοῖς ἀπροαιρέτως ἀπονεμομένοις—εἰ τούτου, φημί, κρεῖττον τι ὁρᾶς, ἐπ' ἐκεῖνο ἔξι δλῆς τῆς ψυχῆς τραπόμενος τοῦ ἀρίστου εύρισκομένου ἀπόλαυε.

- 2 Εἰ δὲ μηδὲν κρεῖττον φαίνεται αὐτοῦ τοῦ ἐνιδρυμένου ἐν σοὶ δαίμονος, τάς τε ἵδιας ὄρμας ὑποτεταχότος ἑαυτῷ, καὶ τὰς φαντασίας ἔξετάζοντος, καὶ τῶν αἰσθητικῶν πείσεων, ὡς ὁ Σωκράτης ἔλεγεν, ἑαυτὸν ἀφειλκυκότος, καὶ τοῖς θεοῖς ὑποτεταχότος ἑαυτόν, καὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων προκηδομένου — εἰ τούτου πάντα τὰ ἄλλα μικρότερα καὶ εὐτελέστερα εύρισκεις, μηδενὶ χώραν δίδου ἐτέρῳ, πρὸς δὲ ῥέψας ἅπαξ καὶ ἀποκλίνας οὐκ ἔτι ἀπερισπάστως τὸ ἀγαθὸν ἐκεῖνο τὸ ἔδιον καὶ τὸ σὸν προτιμᾶν δυνήσῃ· ἀντικαθῆσθαι γὰρ τῷ λογικῷ καὶ πολιτικῷ¹ ἀγαθῷ οὐ θέμις οὐδὲ ὅτιοῦν ἐτερογενές, οἷον τὸν παρὰ τῶν πολλῶν ἔπαινον ἡ ἀρχὰς ἡ πλοῦτον ἡ ἀπολαύσεις ἥδουνων. πάντα ταῦτα, καν πρὸς ὀλίγον ἐναρμόζειν δόξῃ, κατεκράτησεν ἄφνω καὶ παρήνεγκεν.
- 3 Σὺ δέ, φημί, ἀπλῶς καὶ ἐλευθέρως ἐλοῦ τὸ κρεῖττον καὶ τούτου ἀντέχου· “Κρεῖττον δὲ τὸ συμφέρον.” εἰ μὲν τὸ ὡς λογικῷ, τοῦτο τήρει· εἰ δὲ τὸ ὡς ζῷῳ, ἀπόφηναι καὶ ἀτύφως φύλασσε

¹ ποιητικῷ PA : πολιτικῷ Gat.

¹ iii. 4, § 3, 12, 16, or good ‘genius,’ but cp. iii. 5, θεός.

BOOK III

6. If indeed thou findest in the life of man a better thing than justice, than truth, than temperance, than manliness, and, in a word, than thy mind's satisfaction with itself in things wherein it shews thee acting according to the true dictates of reason, and with destiny in what is allotted thee apart from thy choice—if, I say, thou seest anything better than this, turn to it with all thy soul and take thy fill of the best, as thou findest it.

But if there appears nothing better than the very deity¹ enthroned in thee, which has brought into subjection to itself all individual desires, which scrutinizes the thoughts, and, in the words of Socrates, has withdrawn itself from all the enticements of the senses, and brought itself into subjection to the Gods, and cherishes a fellow-feeling for men—if thou findest everything else pettier and of less account than this, give place to nought else, to which if thou art but once plucked aside, and incline thereto, never more shalt thou be able without distraction to give paramount honour to that good which is thine own peculiar heritage. For it is not right that any extraneous thing at all, such as the praise of the many, or office, or wealth, or indulgence in pleasure, should avail against that good which is identical with reason and a civic spirit. All these things, even if they seem for a little to fit smoothly into our lives, on a sudden overpower us and sweep us away.

But do thou, I say, simply and freely choose the better and hold fast to it. *But that is the better which is to my interest.* If it is to thy interest as a rational creature, hold that fast; but if as a mere animal, declare it boldly and maintain thy judgment without

MARCUS AURELIUS

τὴν κρίσιν· μόνον ὅπως ἀσφαλῶς τὴν ἔξέτασιν ποιήσῃ.

ζ'. Μὴ τιμήσης ποτὲ ὡς συμφέρον σεαυτοῦ, ὃ ἀναγκάσει σέ ποτε τὴν πίστιν παραβῆναι, τὴν αἰδῶ ἐγκαταλιπεῖν, μισῆσαι τινα, ὑποπτεῦσαι, καταράσασθαι, ὑποκρίνασθαι, ἐπιθυμῆσαι τινος τοίχων καὶ παραπετασμάτων δεομένου. ὁ γὰρ τὸν ἑαυτοῦ νοῦν καὶ δαίμονα καὶ τὰ ὅργα τῆς τούτου ἀρετῆς προελόμενος, τραγῳδίαν οὐ ποιεῖ, οὐ στενάζει, οὐκ ἐρημίας, οὐ πολυπληθείας δεήσεται· τὸ μέγιστον, ζήσει μήτε διώκων μήτε φεύγων· πότερον δὲ ἐπὶ πλέον διάστημα χρόνου τῷ σώματι περιεχομένη τῇ ψυχῇ ἡ ἐπ' ἔλασσον χρήσεται, οὐδὲ ὄτιοῦν αὐτῷ μέλει· καν γὰρ ἥδη ἀπαλλάσσεσθαι δέῃ, οὕτως εὐλύτως ἄπεισιν, ὡς ἄλλο τι τῶν αἰδημόνως καὶ κοσμίως ἐνεργεῖσθαι δυναμένων ἐνεργησείων,¹ τοῦτο μόνον παρ' ὅλον τὸν βίον εὐλαβούμενος, τὸ τὴν διάνοιαν ἐν τινι ἀνοικείῳ νοεροῦ <καὶ> πολιτικοῦ ζώου τροπῇ γενέσθαι.

η'. Οὐδὲν ἀν ἐν τῇ διανοίᾳ τοῦ κεκολασμένου καὶ ἐκκεκαθαρμένου πυῶδες οὐδὲ μὴν μεμολυσμένον οὐδὲ ὑπουλον εὔροις. οὐδὲ ἀσυντελῆ τὸν βίον αὐτοῦ ἡ πεπρωμένη καταλαμβάνει, ὡς ἂν τις εἴποι τὸν τραγῳδὸν πρὸ τοῦ τελέσαι καὶ διαδραματίσαι ἀπαλλάσσεσθαι. ἔτι δὲ οὐδὲν δοῦλον οὐδὲ κομψόν, οὐδὲ προσδεδεμένον οὐδὲ ἀπεσχισμένον, οὐδὲ ὑπεύθυνον οὐδὲ ἐμφωλεύον.

θ'. Τὴν ὑποληπτικὴν δύναμιν σέβε. ἐν ταύτῃ

¹ ἐνεργήσεων P : ἐνεργήσειν A : ἐνεργησείων Radermacher.

1 iii. 16 ; Epict. iii. 22, § 16. cf. Plutarch, *Sympos.* vii. 5.

BOOK III

arrogance. Only see to it that thou hast made thy enquiry without error.

7. Prize not anything as being to thine interest that shall ever force thee to break thy troth, to surrender thine honour, to hate, suspect, or curse anyone, to play the hypocrite, to lust after anything that needs walls and curtains.¹ For he that has chosen before all else his own intelligence and good 'genius,' and to be a devotee of its supreme worth, does not strike a tragic attitude or whine, nor will he ask for either a wilderness or a concourse of men; above all he will live neither chasing anything nor shunning it. And he recks not at all whether he is to have his soul imprisoned in his body for a longer or a shorter span of time,² for even if he must take his departure at once, he will go as willingly as if he were to discharge any other function that can be discharged with decency and orderliness, making sure through life of this one thing, that his thoughts should not in any case assume a character out of keeping with a rational and civic creature.

8. In the mind of the man that has been chastened and thoroughly cleansed thou wilt find no foul abscess or gangrene or hidden sore. Nor is his life cut short, when the day of destiny overtakes him, as we might say of a tragedian's part, who leaves the stage before finishing his speech and playing out the piece.³ Furthermore there is nothing there slavish or affected, no dependence on others or severance from them,⁴ no sense of accountability or skulking to avoid it.

9. Hold sacred thy capacity for forming opinions.

¹ Sen. *N.Q.* vi. 32, *ad fin.* ³ xii. 36; Sen. *Ep.* 77.

² viii. 34.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τὸ πᾶν, ἵνα ὑπόληψις τῷ ἡγεμονικῷ σου μηκέτι ἐγγένηται ἀνακόλουθος τῇ φύσει καὶ τῇ τοῦ λογικοῦ ζώου κατασκευῇ. αὕτη δὲ ἐπαγγέλλεται ἀπροπτωσίαν καὶ τὴν πρὸς ἀνθρώπους οἰκείωσιν καὶ τὴν τοῦς θεοῖς ἀκολουθίαν.

ι'. Πάντα οὖν ρίψας, ταῦτα μόνα τὰ ὀλίγα σύνεχε· καὶ ἔτι συμμημόνευε, ὅτι μόνον ζῆ ἔκαστος τὸ παρὸν τοῦτο τὸ ἀκαριαῖον· τὰ δὲ ἄλλα ἡ Βεβίωται ἡ ἐν ἀδήλῳ. μικρὸν μὲν οὖν δὲ ζῆ ἔκαστος, μικρὸν δὲ τὸ τῆς γῆς γωνίδιον ὃπου ζῆ· μικρὸν δὲ καὶ ἡ μηκίστη ὑστεροφημία, καὶ αὕτη δὲ κατὰ διαδοχὴν ἀνθρωπαρίων τάχιστα τεθνηξομένων καὶ οὐκ εἰδότων οὐδὲ ἑαυτούς, οὕτιγε τὸν πρόπαλαι τεθνηκότα.

ια'. Τοὺς δὲ εἰρημένους παραστήμασιν ἐν ἔτι προσέστω, τὸ δρον ἡ ὑπογραφὴν ἀεὶ ποιεῖσθαι τοῦ ὑποπίπτοντος φανταστοῦ, ὥστε αὐτὸς ὅποιόν ἔστι κατ' οὐσίαν γυμνὸν ὅλον δι' ὅλων διηρημένως βλέπειν, καὶ τὸ ἴδιον ὄνομα αὐτοῦ καὶ τὰ ὄνόματα ἐκείνων, ἐξ ὧν συνεκρίθη καὶ εἰς ἀναλυθῆσται, λέγειν παρ' ἑαυτῷ.

2 Οὐδὲν γὰρ οὕτως μεγαλοφροσύνης ποιητικόν, ὡς τὸ ἐλέγχειν ὁδῷ καὶ ἀληθείᾳ ἔκαστον τῶν <ἐν> τῷ βίῳ ὑποπιπτόντων δύνασθαι καὶ τὸ ἀεὶ οὕτως εἰς αὐτὰ ὄρāν, ὥστε συνεπιβάλλειν, ὅποιφτιν τῷ κόσμῳ ὅποιαν τινὰ τοῦτο χρείαν παρεχόμενον τίνα μὲν ἔχει ἀξίαν ὡς πρὸς τὸ ὅλον, τίνα δὲ ὡς πρὸς τὸν ἀνθρωπὸν, πολίτην ὃντα πόλεως τῆς ἀνωτάτης, ἢς αἱ λοιπαὶ πόλεις ὥσπερ οἰκίαι εἰσίν· τί ἔστι, καὶ ἐκ τίνων συγκέκριται, καὶ

¹ ii. 14.

² iv. 3, § 3; viii. 21.

³ xii. 10. 18.

BOOK III

With that it rests wholly that thy ruling Reason should never admit any opinion out of harmony with Nature, and with the constitution of a rational creature. This ensures due deliberation and fellowship with mankind and fealty to the Gods.

10. Jettison everything else, then, and lay hold of these things only, few as they are ; and remember withal that it is only this present,¹ a moment of time, that a man lives : all the rest either has been lived or may never be. Little indeed, then, is a man's life, and little the nook of earth² whereon he lives, and little even the longest after-fame, and that too handed on through a succession of manikins, each one of them very soon to be dead, with no knowledge even of themselves, let alone of a man who has died long since.

11. To the stand-bys mentioned add one more, that a definition or delineation should be made of every object that presents itself, so that we may see what sort of thing it is in its essence³ stripped of its adjuncts, a separate whole taken as such, and tell over with ourselves both its particular designation and the names of the elements that compose it and into which it will be disintegrated.

For nothing is so conducive to greatness of mind as the ability to examine systematically and honestly everything that meets us in life, and to regard these things always in such a way as to form a conception of the kind of Universe they belong to, and of the use which the thing in question subserves in it; what value it has for the whole Universe and what for man, citizen as he is of the highest state, of which all other states are but as households; what it actually is, and com-

MARCUS AURELIUS

πόσον χρόνον πέφυκε παραμένειν τοῦτο, τὸ τὴν φαντασίαν μοι οὐν ποιοῦν· καὶ τίνος ἀρετῆς πρὸς αὐτὸν χρεία, οἷον ἡμερότητος, ἀνδρείας, ἀληθείας, πίστεως, ἀφελείας, αὐταρκείας, τῶν λοιπῶν.

3 Διὸ δεῖ ἐφ' ἔκάστου λέγειν, τοῦτο μὲν παρὰ θεοῦ ἥκει τοῦτο δὲ κατὰ τὴν σύλληξιν καὶ τὴν συμμηρυομένην σύγκλωσιν καὶ τὴν τοιιαύτην σύντευξίν τε καὶ τύχην τοῦτο δὲ παρὰ τοῦ συμφύλου καὶ συγγενοῦντος καὶ κοινωνοῦ, ἀγνοοῦντος μέντοι ὃ τι αὐτῷ κατὰ φύσιν ἐστίν. ἀλλ' ἐγὼ οὐκ ἀγνοῶ· διὰ τοῦτο χρῶμαι αὐτῷ κατὰ τὸν τῆς κοινωνίας φυσικὸν νόμον εὔνως καὶ δικαίως· ἅμα μέντοι τοῦ κατ' ἄξιαν ἐν τοῖς μέσοις συστοχάζομαι.

ιβ. Ἐὰν τὸ παρὸν ἐνεργῆς ἐπόμενος τῷ ὄρθῳ λόγῳ ἐσπουδασμένως, ἐρρωμένως, εὔμενῶς, καὶ μηδὲν παρεμπόρευμα,¹ ἀλλὰ τὸν ἑαυτοῦ δαίμονα καθαρὸν ἐστῶτα τηρῆς, ὡς εἰ καὶ ἥδη ἀποδοῦναι δέοι· ἐὰν τοῦτο συνάπτης μηδὲν περιμένων μηδὲ φεύγων, ἀλλὰ τῇ παρούσῃ κατὰ φύσιν ἐνεργείᾳ καὶ τῇ, ὡν λέγεις καὶ φθέγγῃ, ἡρωϊκῇ ἀληθείᾳ ἀρκούμενος, εὐζωήσεις. ἔστι δὲ οὐδεὶς ὁ τοῦτο κωλῦσαι δυνάμενος.

ιγ. "Ωσπερ οἱ ἰατροὶ ἀεὶ τὰ ὅργανα καὶ σιδήρια πρόχειρα ἔχουσι πρὸς τὰ αἰφνίδια τῶν θεραπευμάτων, οὕτω τὰ δόγματα σὺ ἔτοιμα ἔχε πρὸς τὸ τὰ θεῖα καὶ ἀνθρώπινα εἰδέναι, καὶ πᾶν

¹ παρεμπορεύη Gat.: Perhaps ἐν παρεμπορεύματι.

¹ Notice the fondness of Marcus for compounds of *συν-* and his use here of alliteration, cp. xii. 14.

BOOK III

pounded of what elements, and likely to last how long—namely this that now gives me the impression in question; and what virtue it calls for from me, such as gentleness, manly courage, truth, fidelity, guilelessness, frugality, and the rest.

In each case therefore must thou say: *This has come from God; and this is due to the conjunction of fate and the contexture of the world's web and some such coincidence and chance;*¹ *while that comes from a clansman and a kinsman and a fellow, albeit one who is ignorant of what is really in accordance with his nature. But I am not ignorant, therefore I treat him kindly and justly, in accordance with the natural law of neighbourliness; at the same time, of things that are neither good nor bad, my aim is to hit their true worth.*

12. If in obedience to right reason thou doest the thing that thy hand findeth to do earnestly, manfully, graciously, and in no sense as a by-work,² and keepest that divine 'genius'³ of thine in its virgin state, just as if even now thou wert called upon to restore it to the Giver—if thou grapple this to thee, looking for nothing, shrinking from nothing, but content with a present sphere of activity such as Nature allows, and with old-world truth in every word and utterance of thy tongue, thou shalt be happy in thy life. And there is no one that is able to prevent this.

13. Just as physicians always keep their lancets and instruments ready to their hands for emergency operations, so also do thou keep thine axioms ready for the diagnosis of things human and divine, and

² *cpr.* Dio 71. 6, § 2 (of Marcus), οὐδὲν ἐν παρέργῳ οὕτε ἔλεγεν οὕτε σύραψεν οὕτε ἐποίει.

³ iii. 6, § 2.

MARCUS AURELIUS

καὶ τὸ μικρότατον οὕτω ποιεῖν, ώς τῆς ἀμφοτέρων πρὸς ἄλληλα συνδέσεως μεμνημένου. οὔτε γὰρ ἀνθρώπινόν τι ἄνευ τῆς ἐπὶ τὰ θεῖα συναναφορᾶς εὖ πράξεις οὔτε ἔμπαλιν.

ιδ. Μηκέτι πλανῶ· οὔτε γὰρ τὰ ὑπομνημάτιά σου μέλλεις ἀναγινώσκειν, οὔτε τὰς τῶν ἀρχαίων Ῥωμαίων καὶ Ἑλλήνων πράξεις, καὶ τὰς ἐκ τῶν συγγραμμάτων ἐκλογάς, ἃς εἰς τὸ γῆρας σαυτῷ ἀπετίθεσο. σπεῦδε οὖν εἰς τέλος,¹ καὶ τὰς κενὰς ἐλπίδας ἀφεὶς σαυτῷ βοήθει, εἴ τι σοι μέλει σεαυτοῦ, ἔως ἔξεστιν.

ιε'. Οὐκ ἵσασι πόσα σημαίνει τὸ κλέπτειν,² τὸ σπείρειν, τὸ ὠνεῖσθαι,³ τὸ ἡσυχάζειν, τὸ ὄρāν τὰ πρακτέα, δὲ οὐκ ὁφθαλμοῖς γίνεται ἀλλ' ἐτέρᾳ τινὶ ὄψει.

ιε'. Σῶμα, ψυχή, νοῦς· σώματος αἰσθήσεις, ψυχῆς ὄρμαί, νοῦ δόγματα. τὸ μὲν τυποῦσθαι φανταστικῶς καὶ τῶν βοσκημάτων, τὸ δὲ νευροσπαστεῖσθαι ὄρμητικῶς καὶ τῶν θηρίων καὶ τῶν ἀνδρογύνων καὶ Φαλάριδος καὶ Νέρωνος· τὸ δὲ τὸν νοῦν ἡγεμόνα ἔχειν ἐπὶ τὰ φαινόμενα καθήκοντα, καὶ τῶν θεοὺς μὴ νομιζόντων καὶ τῶν τὴν πατρίδα ἐγκαταλειπόντων καὶ τῶν <πᾶν⁴> ποιούντων, ἐπειδὴν κλείσωσι τὰς θύρας.

2 Εἰ οὖν τὰ λοιπὰ⁵ κοινά ἔστι πρὸς τὰ εἰρημένα,

¹ εἰς τέλος P : εἰ θέλεις AC.

² σκάπτειν “to delve” Polak. ³ κινεῖσθαι Richards.

⁴ <πᾶν> Cor. ⁵ For τὰ λοιπὰ I would prefer τοιαῦτα.

¹ i.e. the human and the divine.

² It is not clear whether Marcus refers to the present book. He uses a similar word for the discourses of Epictetus (i. 7).

BOOK III

for the performing of every act, even the pettiest, with the fullest consciousness of the mutual ties between these two.¹ For thou shalt never carry out well any human duty unless thou correlate it to the divine, nor the reverse.

14. Go astray no more ; for thou art not likely to read thy little *Memoranda*,² or the *Acts of the Romans and the Greeks of Old Time*,³ and the extracts⁴ from their writings which thou wast laying up against thine old age. Haste then to the consummation and, casting away all empty hopes, if thou carest aught for thy welfare, come to thine own rescue, while it is allowed thee.

15. They know not how full of meaning are—to thieve,⁵ to sow, to buy, to be at peace, to see what needs doing, and this is not a matter for the eye but for another sort of sight.

16. *Body, Soul, Intelligence* : for the body sensations, for the soul desires, for the intelligence axioms. To receive impressions by way of the senses is not denied even to cattle ; to be as puppets⁶ pulled by the strings of desire is common to wild beasts and to pathics and to a Phalaris and a Nero. Yet to have the intelligence a guide to what they deem their duty is an attribute of those also who do not believe in Gods and those who fail their country in its need and those who do their deeds behind closed doors.⁷

If then all else is the common property of the

¹ ii. 2. Some have seen here a reference to a history written by Marcus himself.

² See Fronto, *ad Caes.* ii. 10, *excerpta ex libris sexaginta n quinque tomis.* ³ xi. 3. ⁴ ii. 2.

⁵ Must undoubtedly refer to the Christians, who were accused precisely of these three things—atheism, want of patriotism, and secret orgies. *cp.* also, i. 6; vii. 68; viii. 48, 51 ; and see note pp. 381 ff.

MARCUS AURELIUS

λοιπὸν τὸ ἴδιόν ἔστι τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ φιλεῖν
μὲν καὶ ἀσπάζεσθαι τὰ συμβαίνοντα καὶ συγ-
κλωθόμενα αὐτῷ· τὸν δὲ ἔνδον ἐν τῷ στήθει
ἱδρυμένον δαίμονα μὴ φύρειν μηδὲ θορυβεῖν ὅχλῳ
φαντασιῶν, ἀλλὰ ἵλεων διατηρεῖν, κοσμίως ἐπό-
μενον θεῷ, μήτε φθεγγόμενόν τι παρὰ τὰ ἀληθῆ
μήτε ἐνεργοῦντα παρὰ τὰ δίκαια. εἰ δὲ ἀπιστοῦ-
σιν αὐτῷ πάντες ἄνθρωποι, διτι ἀπλῶς καὶ αἰδημ-
όνως καὶ εὐθύμως βιοῖ, οὕτε χαλεπαίνει τινὶ¹
τούτων, οὕτε παρατρέπεται τῆς ὁδοῦ τῆς ἀγούσης
ἐπὶ τὸ τέλος τοῦ βίου, ἐφ' ὃ δεῖ ἐλθεῖν καθαρόν,
ἡσύχιον, εὔλυτον, ἀβιάστως τῇ ἑαυτοῦ μοίρᾳ
συνηρμοσμένον.

BOOK III

classes mentioned, there is left as the characteristic of the good man to delight in and to welcome what befalls and what is spun for him by destiny ; and not to sully the divine 'genius' that is enthroned in his bosom,¹ nor yet to perplex it with a multitude of impressions, but to maintain it to the end in a gracious serenity, in orderly obedience to God, uttering no word that is not true and doing no deed that is not just. But if all men disbelieve in his living a simple and modest and cheerful life, he is not wroth with any of them, nor swerves from the path which leads to his life's goal, whither he must go pure, peaceful, ready for release, needing no force to bring him into accord with his lot.

¹ iii. 6, § 2; St. Paul, 1 Cor. iii. 16.

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ Δ

a'. Τὸ ἔνδον κυριεῦον, ὅταν κατὰ φύσιν ἔχῃ, οὕτως ἔστηκε πρὸς τὰ συμβαίνοντα, ὥστε ἀεὶ πρὸς τὸ δυνατὸν καὶ διδόμενον μετατίθεσθαι ράδίως. Ὡλην γάρ ἀποτεταγμένην οὐδεμίαν φιλεῖ, ἀλλὰ ὄρμᾶ μὲν πρὸς τὰ <προ>ηγούμενα¹ μεθ' ὑπεξαιρέσεως· τὸ δὲ ἀντεισαγόμενον ὥλην ἔαυτῷ ποιεῖ, ὥσπερ τὸ πῦρ, ὅταν ἐπικρατῇ τῶν ἐπεμπιπτόντων, ὃν ἀν μικρός τις λύχνος ἐσβέσθη· τὸ δὲ λαμπρὸν πῦρ τάχιστα ἔξφειώσεν ἔαυτῷ τὰ ἐπιφορούμενα καὶ κατηνάλωσεν καὶ ἐξ αὐτῶν ἐκείνων ἐπὶ μεῖζον ἥρθη.

β'. Μηδὲν ἐνέργημα εἰκῆ μηδὲ ἄλλως ἢ κατὰ θεώρημα συμπληρωτικὸν τῆς τέχνης ἐνεργείσθω.

γ'. Ἀναχωρήσεις αὐτοῖς ζητοῦσιν, ἀγροικίας καὶ αἰγιαλούς καὶ ὅρη· εἴωθας δὲ καὶ σὺ τὰ τοιαῦτα μάλιστα ποθεῖν. ὅλον δὲ τοῦτο ἴδιωτικώτατόν ἔστιν, ἔξὸν ἡς ἀν ὥρας ἐθελήσῃς εἰς ἔαυτὸν ἀναχωρεῖν. οὐδαμοῦ γάρ οὔτε ἡσυχιώτερον οὔτε

¹ <προ> Gat.

² i.e. conditionally or as far as circumstances will allow, vi. 50. cp. St. James, Ep. iv. 15.

³ v. 20; vi. 50; Sen. de Prov. 2.

⁴ ii. 5 etc.

BOOK IV

1. THAT which holds the mastery¹ within us, when it is in accordance with Nature, is so disposed towards what befalls, that it can always adapt itself with ease to what is possible and granted us. For it is wedded to no definite material, but, though in the pursuit of its high aims it works under reservations,² yet it converts into material for itself any obstacle that it meets with, just as fire³ when it gets the mastery of what is thrown in upon it. A little flame would have been stifled by it, but the blazing fire instantly assimilates what is cast upon it and, consuming it, leaps the higher in consequence.

2. Take no act in hand aimlessly⁴ or otherwise than in accordance with the true principles perfective of the art.

3. Men seek out retreats for themselves in the country, by the seaside, on the mountains, and thou too art wont to long intensely for such things.⁵ But all this is unphilosophical to the last degree, when thou canst at a moment's notice retire into thyself.⁶ For nowhere can a man find a retreat more full of

⁵ e.g. Lorium, Lanuvium, Alsium, Centumcellae, Praeneste, Baiae, Caieta, all holiday resorts of Marcus, see especially Fronto *de Fer. Als.* Nab. p. 223 ff. *cpr.* x. 15, 23.

⁶ *cpr.* Arethas on Dio Chrys. xx. 8, μὴ οὖν βελτίστη καὶ λυσιτελεστάτη πασῶν ἡ εἰς αὐτὸν ἀναχώρησις. See below iv. 3, § 4; vii. 28.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἀπραγμονέστερον ἄνθρωπος ἀναχωρεῖ ή εἰς τὴν
ἐαυτοῦ ψυχήν μάλισθ' ὅστις ἔχει ἔνδον τοιαῦτα,
εἰς ἀ ἐγκύψας ἐν πάσῃ εὐμαρείᾳ εὐθὺς γίνεται·
τὴν δὲ εὐμάρειαν οὐδὲν ἄλλο λέγω ή εὐκοσμίαν.
συνεχώς οὖν δίδου σεαυτῷ ταύτην τὴν ἀναχώρησιν, καὶ ἀνανέου σεαυτόν· βραχέα δὲ ἔστω
καὶ στοιχειώδη, ἀ εὐθὺς ἀπαντήσαντα ἀρκέσει
εἰς τὸ πᾶσαν τάνιαν ἀποκλύσαι¹, καὶ ἀπο-
πέμψαι σε μὴ δυσχεραίνοντα ἐκείνοις, ἐφ' ἀ
ἐπανέρχῃ.

2 Τίνι γὰρ δυσχεραίνεις; τῇ τῶν ἀνθρώπων κακίᾳ;
ἀναλογισάμενος τὸ κρίμα, ὅτι τὰ λογικὰ ζῶα
ἄλλήλων ἔνεκεν γέγονε, καὶ ὅτι τὸ ἀνέχεσθαι
μέρος τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ ὅτι ἄκοντες ἀμαρτάνουσι,
καὶ πόσοι ἡδη διεχθρεύσαντες, ὑποπτεύσαντες,
μισήσαντες, διαδορατισθέντες ἐκτέτανται,
τετέφρωνται, παύουν ποτέ. ἀλλὰ καὶ τοῖς ἐκ τῶν
δλων ἀπονεμομένοις δυσχεραίνεις; ἀνανεωσάμενος τὸ διεζευγμένον ““Ητοι πρόνοια, η ἄτομοι,”
καὶ ἐξ ὅσων ἀπεδείχθη, ὅτι ὁ κόσμος ὥσανεὶ
πόλις. ἀλλὰ τὰ σωματικά σου ἄψεται ἔτι;
ἐννοήσας ὅτι οὐκ ἐπιμίγνυται λείως η τραχέως
κινουμένω πνεύματι η διάνοια, ἐπειδὰν ἀπαξέναυτὴν ἀπολάβῃ καὶ γνωρίσῃ τὴν ἴδιαν ἔξουσίαν·
καὶ λοιπὸν ὅσα περὶ πόνου καὶ ἡδονῆς ἀκήκοας
καὶ συγκατέθου.

3 Ἀλλὰ τὸ δοξάριόν σε περισπάσει; ἀπιδὼν εἰς
τὸ τάχος τῆς πάντων λήθης, καὶ τὸ χάος τοῦ ἐφ'

¹ πᾶσαν αὐτὴν ἀποκλύσαι PC: ἀποκλεῖσαι AD: λύπην Reiske, ἀντανακλάσαι Gat., αὐλήν Lofft. Many accept the last, but it does not suit the next clause and would also require <τὴν>.

¹ For ἐγκύψας cp. St. James, Ep. i. 25, παρακύψας.

² vii. 22, 63; xi. 18, § 3. ³ viii. 17; ix. 28, 39.

BOOK IV

peace or more free from care than his own soul—above all if he have that within him, a steadfast look¹ at which and he is at once in all good ease, and by good ease I mean nothing other than good order. Make use then of this retirement continually and regenerate thyself. Let thy axioms be short and elemental, such as, when set before thee, will at once rid thee of all trouble, and send thee away with no discontent at those things to which thou art returning.

For with what art thou discontented? The wickedness of men? Take this conclusion to heart, that rational creatures have been made for one another; that forbearance is part of justice; that wrong-doing is involuntary;² and think how many ere now, after passing their lives in implacable enmity, suspicion, hatred, and at daggers drawn with one another, have been laid out and burnt to ashes—think of this, I say, and at last stay thy fretting. But art thou discontented with thy share in the whole? Recall the alternative: *Either Providence or Atoms!*³ and the abundant proofs there are that the Universe is as it were a state.⁴ But is it the affections of the body that shall still lay hold on thee? Bethink thee that the Intelligence, when it has once abstracted itself and learnt its own power,⁵ has nothing to do with the motions smooth or rough of the vital breath. Bethink thee too of all that thou hast heard and subscribed to about pleasure and pain.

But will that paltry thing, Fame, pluck thee aside? Look at the swift approach of complete forgetfulness,

⁴ ii. 16 *ad fin.*; iv. 4; x. 15; xii. 36. St. Paul, Philip-pians iii. 20.

⁵ v. 14.

MARCUS AURELIUS

έκάτερα ἀπείρου αἰώνος, καὶ τὸ κενὸν τῆς ἀπηχήσεως, καὶ τὸ εὔμετάβολον καὶ ἄκριτον τῶν εὐφημεῖν¹ δοκούντων, καὶ τὸ στενὸν τοῦ τόπου, ἐν φεριγράφεται. ὅλη τε γὰρ ἡ γῆ στιγμή, καὶ ταύτης πόστον γωνίδιον ἡ κατοίκησις αὗτη; καὶ ἐνταῦθα πόσοι καὶ οἱ τινες οἱ ἐπαινεσόμενοι;

4 Λοιπὸν οὖν μέμνησο τῆς ὑποχωρήσεως τῆς εἰς τοῦτο τὸ ἀγρίδιον ἑαυτοῦ· καὶ πρὸ παντὸς μὴ σπῶ μηδὲ κατεντείνου, ἀλλὰ ἐλεύθερος ἔσο καὶ ὥρα τὰ πράγματα ώς ἀνήρ, ώς ἄνθρωπος, ώς πολίτης, ώς θυητὸν ζῶν. ἐν δὲ τοῖς προχειροτάτοις, εἰς δὲ ἐγκύψεις, ταῦτα ἔστω τὰ δυο. ἐν μέν, ὅτι τὰ πράγματα οὐχ ἄπτεται τῆς ψυχῆς, ἀλλ' ἔξω ἔστηκεν ἀτρεμοῦντα· αἱ δὲ ὄχλήσεις ἐκ μόνης τῆς ἔνδουν ὑπολήψεως. ἔτερον δέ, ὅτι πάντα ταῦτα ὅσα ὄρᾶς ὅσον οὐδέπω μεταβάλλει καὶ οὐκ ἔτι ἔσται· καὶ ὅσων ἡδη μεταβολαῖς αὐτὸς παρατεύχηκας, συνεχῶς διανοοῦ. ‘ὁ κόσμος, ἀλλοίωσις· ὁ βίος, ὑπόληψις.’

δ'. Εἴ τὸ νοερὸν ἡμῖν κοινόν, καὶ ὁ λόγος, καθ' ὃν λογικοί ἔσμεν, κοινός· εἰ τοῦτο, καὶ ὁ προστακτικὸς τῶν ποιητέων ἡ μὴ λόγος κοινός· εἰ τοῦτο, καὶ ὁ νόμος κοινός· εἰ τοῦτο, πολιταί ἔσμεν· εἰ τοῦτο, πολιτεύματός τινος μετέχομεν· εἰ τοῦτο, ὁ κόσμος ὡσανεὶ πόλις ἔστι. τινος γὰρ ἄλλου

¹ ἐφ' ἡμῖν PADC: εὐφημεῖν Gat.: perhaps ἐφ' ἡμῶν εὐφημεῖν.

¹ iii. 10; viii. 21.

² ii. 15; iv. 7; xii. 22. A maxim of Democrates, a Pythagorean; cp. Shak. Hamlet ii. 2. 256, “There is nothing either good or bad but thinking makes it so”; Tennyson: 70

BOOK IV

and the void of infinite time on this side of us and on that, and the empty echo of acclamation, and the fickleness and uncritical judgment of those who claim to speak well of us, and the narrowness of the arena to which all this is confined. For the whole earth is but a point, and how tiny a corner¹ of it is this the place of our sojourning! and how many therein and of what sort are the men who shall praise thee!

From now therefore bethink thee of the retreat into this little plot that is thyself. Above all distract not thyself, be not too eager, but be thine own master, and look upon life as a man, as a human being, as a citizen, as a mortal creature. But among the principles readiest to thine hand, upon which thou shalt pore, let there be these two. One, that objective things do not lay hold of the soul, but stand quiescent without; while disturbances are but the outcome of that opinion which is within us. A second, that all this visible world changes in a moment, and will be no more; and continually bethink thee to the changes of how many things thou hast already been a witness. ‘The Universe—mutation: Life—opinion.’²

4. If the intellectual capacity is common to us all, common too is the reason, which makes us rational creatures. If so, that reason also is common which tells us to do or not to do. If so, law³ also is common. If so, we are citizens. If so, we are fellow-members of an organised community. If so, the Universe is as it were a state⁴—for of what

“All things are, as they seem, to all.” Some have been found to say that even matter has no objective existence.

³ vii. 9. *cp. Aur. Vict. Epit.* xvi. 4, *Mundi lex seu Natura.*

⁴ iv. 3, § 2.

MARCUS AURELIUS

φήσει τις τὸ τῶν ἀνθρώπων πᾶν γένος κοινοῦ πολιτεύματος μετέχειν; ἐκεῖθεν δέ, ἐκ τῆς κοινῆς ταύτης πόλεως, καὶ αὐτὸ τὸ νοερὸν καὶ λογικὸν καὶ νομικὸν ἡμῖν· ἡ πόθεν; ὥσπερ γὰρ τὸ γεῶδες μοι ἀπό τινος γῆς ἀπομεμέρισται, καὶ τὸ ὑγρὸν ἀφ' ἔτερου στοιχείου καὶ τὸ πνευματικὸν ἀπὸ πηγῆς¹ τινὸς καὶ τὸ θερμὸν καὶ πυρῶδες ἐκ τινος ἴδιας πηγῆς (οὐδὲν γὰρ ἐκ τοῦ μηδενὸς ἔρχεται, ὥσπερ μηδ' εἰς τὸ οὐκ διν ἀπέρχεται), οὕτω δὴ καὶ τὸ νοερὸν ἡκει ποθέν.

ε'. 'Ο θάνατος τοιοῦτος, οἷον γένεσις, φύσεως μυστήριον, σύγκρισις ἐκ τῶν αὐτῶν στοιχείων, <διάκρισις>² εἰς ταύτα· δλως δὲ οὐκ ἐφ' ω ἄν τις αἰσχυνθείη· οὐ γὰρ παρὰ τὸ ἔξῆς τῷ νοερῷ ζῷῳ οὐδὲ παρὰ τὸν λόγον τῆς παρασκευῆς.³

σ'. Ταῦτα οὕτως ὑπὸ τῶν τοιούτων πέφυκε γίνεσθαι ἔξ ἀνάγκης· ὁ δὲ τοῦτο μὴ θέλων θέλει τὴν συκῆν ὅπὸν μὴ ἔχειν. δλως δ' ἐκεῦνο μέμνησο, δτι ἐντὸς δλιγίστου χρόνου καὶ σὺ καὶ οὗτος τεθνήξεσθε· μετὰ βραχὺ δὲ οὐδὲ δονομα ὑμῶν ὑπολειφθήσεται.

ζ'. 'Αρουν τὴν ὑπόληψιν, ἡρται τὸ βέβλαμμα· ἄρουν τὸ "βέβλαμμα," ἡρται ἡ βλάβη.

η'. 'Ο χείρω αὐτὸν ἔαυτοῦ ἀνθρωπὸν οὐ ποιεῖ, τοῦτο οὐδὲ τὸν βίον αὐτοῦ χείρω ποιεῖ, οὐδὲ βλάπτει οὔτε ἔξωθεν οὔτε ἔνδοθεν.

θ'. 'Ηνάγκασται ἡ τοῦ συμφέροντος φύσις τοῦτο ποιεῖν.

¹ πηγῆς PC: γῆς AD: πνοῆς Schenkl. ² <διάκρισις> or <διάλυσις> Gat. ³ We should expect κατασκεύης.

¹ Lit. the pneumatic, here = τὸ ἀερῶδες (x. 7, § 2).
² vii. 64. ³ v. 17.

BOOK IV

other single polity can the whole race of mankind be said to be fellow-members?—and from it, this common State, we get the intellectual, the rational, and the legal instinct, or whence do we get them? For just as the earthy part has been portioned off for me from some earth, and the watery from another element, and the aerial¹ from some source, and the hot and fiery from some source of its own—for nothing comes from the non-existent, any more than it disappears into nothingness—so also the intellect has undoubtedly come from somewhere.

5. Death like birth is a secret of Nature—a combination of the same elements, a breaking up into the same—and not at all a thing in fact for any to be ashamed of,² for it is not out of keeping with an intellectual creature or the reason of his constitution.

6. Given such men, it was in the nature of the case inevitable that their conduct should be of this kind.³ To wish it otherwise, is to wish that the fig-tree had no acrid juice.⁴ As a general conclusion call this to mind, that within a very short time both thou and he will be dead, and a little later not even your names will be left behind you.

7. Efface the opinion, *I am harmed*, and at once the feeling of being harmed disappears; efface the feeling, and the harm disappears at once.⁵

8. That which does not make a man himself worse than before cannot make his life worse⁶ either, nor injure it whether from without or within.

9. The nature of the general good could not but have acted so.

¹ xii. 16. *cp. Bacon, On Revenge.*

² iv. 3, § 4; vii. 14, 29; ix. 7; xii. 25. ⁶ ii. 11; vii. 64.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ι'. "Οτι πᾶν τὸ συμβαῖνον δικαίως συμβαίνει
δ, ἐὰν ἀκριβῶς παραφυλάσσης, εὐρήσεις· οὐ
λέγω μόνον κατὰ τὸ ἔξῆς, ἀλλ' ὅτι κατὰ τὸ
δίκαιον καὶ ως ἀν ὑπό τινος ἀπονέμοντος τὸ κατ'
ἀξίαν. παραφύλασσε οὖν, ως ἡρξω· καί, ὅ τι
ἀν ποιῆς, σὺν τούτῳ ποίει, σὺν τῷ ἀγαθὸς εἶναι,
καθ' ὃ νενόηται ἴδιως ὁ ἀγαθός. τοῦτο ἐπὶ πάσης
ἐνεργείας σῶζε.

ια'. Μὴ τοιαῦτα ὑπολάμβανε, οἷα ὁ ὑβρίζων
κρίνει ἡ οἰά σε κρίνειν βούλεται· ἀλλ' ἵδε αὐτά,
όποια κατ' ἀλήθειάν ἔστιν.

ιβ'. Δύο ταύτας ἐτοιμότητας ἔχειν ἀεὶ δεῖ·
τὴν μέν, πρὸς τὸ πρᾶξαι μόνου, δπερ ἀν ὁ τῆς
Βασιλικῆς καὶ νομοθετικῆς λόγος ὑποβάλλῃ, ἐπ'
ώφελείᾳ ἀνθρώπων· τὴν δέ, πρὸς τὸ μεταθέσθαι,
ἐὰν ἄρα τις παρῇ διορθῶν καὶ μετάγων ἀπό τινος
οἰήσεως. τὴν μέντοι μεταγωγὴν ἀεὶ ἀπὸ τινος
πιθανότητος ως δικαίου ἡ κοινωφελοῦς γίνεσθαι,
καὶ τὰ παραπλήσια¹ τοιαῦτα μόνον εἶναι δεῖ,
οὐχ ὅτι ἥδη ἡ ἔνδοξον ἐφάνη.

ιγ'. Λόγον ἔχεις; “ἔχω.” τί οὖν οὐ χρᾶ;
τούτου γάρ τὸ ἑαυτοῦ ποιοῦντος τί ἄλλο θέλεις;

ιδ'. Ενυπέστης ως μέρος. ἐναφανισθήσῃ τῷ
γεννήσαντι· μᾶλλον δὲ ἀναληφθήσῃ εἰς τὸν
λόγον αὐτοῦ τὸν σπερματικὸν κατὰ μεταβολήν.

ιε'. Πολλὰ λιβανωτοῦ βωλάρια ἐπὶ τοῦ
αὐτοῦ βωμοῦ· τὸ μὲν προκατέπεσεν, τὸ δὲ
ὕστερον· διαφέρει δ' οὐδέν.

¹ παρακαίσαντα A.

¹ x. 25. ² cp. Capit. xxii. 4.

³ vii. 73; ix. 42 ad fin. ⁴ ii. 3.

⁵ The primal Fire and the eternal Reason are one and the

BOOK IV

10. Note that all that befalls befalleth justly. Keep close watch and thou wilt find this true, I do not say, as a matter of sequence merely but as a matter of justice also, and as would be expected from One whose dispensation is based on desert.¹ Keep close watch, then, as thou hast begun, and whatsoever thou doest, do it as only a good man should in the strictest sense of that word. In every sphere of activity safeguard this.

11. Harbour no such opinions as he holds who does thee violence, or as he would have thee hold. See things in all their naked reality.

12. Thou shouldest have these two readinesses always at hand ; the one which prompts thee to do only what thy reason in its royal and law-making capacity shall suggest for the good of mankind ; the other to change thy mind,² if one be near to set thee right, and convert thee from some vain conceit. But this conversion should be the outcome of a persuasion in every case that the thing is just or to the common interest—and some such cause should be the only one—not because it is seemingly pleasant or popular.

13. Hast thou reason? *I have.* Why then not use it? For if this performs its part, what else³ wouldest thou have?

14. Thou hast subsisted as part of the Whole.⁴ Thou shalt vanish into that which begat thee, or rather thou shalt be taken again into its Seminal Reason⁵ by a process of change.

15. Many little pellets of frankincense fall upon the same altar, some are cast on it sooner, some later : but it makes no difference.

same, and held to contain the seed of all things. *cp. Just. Apol.* ii. 8, 13 for $\lambda\delta\gamma\sigma\sigma\pi\epsilon\rho\mu\alpha\tau\iota\kappa\delta$ used of Christ.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ις'. Ἐντὸς δέκα ἡμερῶν θεὸς αὐτοῖς δόξεις, οἷς νῦν θηρίον καὶ πίθηκος, ἐὰν ἀνακάμψῃς ἐπὶ τὰ δόγματα καὶ τὸν σεβασμὸν τοῦ λόγου.

ιζ'. Μὴ ως μύρια μέλλων ἔτη ζῆν. τὸ χρεῶν ἐπήρτηται· ἔως ζῆς, ἔως ἔξεστιν, ἀγαθὸς γενοῦν.

ιη'. "Οσην εὐσχολίαν¹ κερδαίνει ὁ μὴ βλέπων τί ὁ πλησίον εἶπεν ἢ ἐπραξεν ἢ διενοήθη, ἀλλὰ μόνον τί αὐτὸς ποιεῖ, ἵνα αὐτὸ τοῦτο δίκαιον ἢ καὶ ὅσιον· † ἢ² κατὰ τὸν ἀγαθὸν μὴ μέλαν † ἥθος περιβλέπεσθαι, ἀλλ' 'ἐπὶ τῆς γραμμῆς τρέχειν ὄρθον, μὴ διερριμένον·'

ιθ'. 'Ο περὶ τὴν ὑστεροφημίαν ἐπτοημένος οὐ φαντάζεται, ὅτι ἕκαστος τῶν μεμνημένων αὐτοῦ τάχιστα καὶ αὐτὸς³ ἀποθανεῖται· εἴτα πάλιν [καὶ αὐτὸς] ὁ ἐκεῖνον διαδεξάμενος, μέχρι καὶ πᾶσα ἡ μνήμη ἀποσβῆ διὰ ἀπτομένων⁴ καὶ σβεννυμένων προϊοῦσα. ὑπόθου δ', ὅτι καὶ ἀθάνατοι μὲν οἱ μεμνησόμενοι, ἀθάνατος δ' ἡ μνήμη· τί οὖν τοῦτο πρὸς σέ; καὶ οὐ λέγω, ὅτι οὐδὲν πρὸς τὸν τεθνηκότα· ἀλλὰ πρὸς τὸν ζῶντα τί ὁ ἔπαινος; πλὴν ἄρα δι' οἰκονομίαν τινά· παρίης †⁵ γὰρ νῦν ἀκάίρως τὴν φυσικὴν δόσιν, ἄλλου τινὸς ἔχόμενος λόγου λοιπόν.†

¹ εὐσχολίαν Gat.: ἀσχολίαν PA.

² ἢ I have written this for ἢ PA: Ἀγαθῶνα Xyl.: δεῖ γὰρ τὸν ἀγαθὸν Morus: ἄλλων for μέλαν Stich. Perhaps μέλαν <ἄλλων>. ³ <καὶ αὐτὸς> P.

⁴ ἐπτοημένων PA: ἀπτομένων Schultz.

⁵ παρίης . . . ἔχόμενος Gat.: παρὲς PA: ἔχόμενον P: ἔχομένην AD.

¹ There was a Greek proverb: ἢ θεὸς ἢ θηρίον (Arist. *Pol.* i. 2, *Eth.* vii. 1). Plut. *Stoic. Parad.* speaks of conversion by philosophy from a θηρίον to a θεός. See Justin's clever application of this proverb, *Apol.* i. 24.

BOOK IV

16. Ere ten days are past, thou shalt rank as a god with them that hold thee now a wild-beast or an ape,¹ if thou but turn back to thy axioms and thy reverence of reason.

17. Behave not as though thou hadst ten thousand years to live. Thy doom hangs over thee. While thou livest, while thou mayest, become good.

18. What richness of leisure doth he gain who has no eye for his neighbour's words or deeds or thoughts,² but only for his own doings, that they be just and righteous ! Verily it is not for the good man to peer about into the blackness of another's heart,³ but to 'run straight for the goal with never a glance aside.'

19. He whose heart flutters for after-fame⁴ does not reflect that very soon every one of those who remember him, and he himself, will be dead, and their successors again after them, until at last the entire recollection of the man will be extinct, handed on as it is by links that flare up and are quenched. But put the case that those who are to remember are even immortal,⁵ and the remembrance immortal, what then is that to thee ? To the dead man, I need scarcely say, the praise is nothing, but what is it to the living, except, indeed, in a subsidiary way ?⁶ For thou dost reject the bounty of nature unseasonably in the present, and clingest to what others shall say of thee hereafter.⁷

² iii. 4 *ad init.* ³ iv. 28.

⁴ ii. 17 ; iii. 10 ; viii. 44 ; x. 34. ⁵ iv. 33.

⁶ iv. 19, 51 ; xi. 18, § 5. The Greek word covers the meanings *expediency*, *management*, or *means to an end*. We use it in a sort of double sense in the expression *economy of truth*.

⁷ Marcus is perhaps finding real fault with himself for caring so much what people said of him ; see Capit. xx. 5 ; xxix. 5. But the reading is doubtful.

MARCUS AURELIUS

κ'. Πᾶν τὸ καὶ ὄπωσοῦν καλὸν ἔξ ἑαυτοῦ καλόν ἔστι, καὶ ἐφ' ἑαυτὸ καταλήγει, οὐκ ἔχον μέρος ἑαυτοῦ τὸν ἔπαινον. οὔτε γοῦν χεῖρον ἡ κρείττον γίνεται τὸ ἔπαινούμενον. τοῦτό φημι καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν κοινότερον καλῶν λεγομένων· οἶον ἐπὶ τῶν ὑλικῶν καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν τεχνικῶν κατασκευασμάτων· τό γε δὴ ὄντως καλὸν τινὸς χρείαν ἔχει; οὐ μᾶλλον ἡ νόμος, οὐ μᾶλλον ἡ ἀλήθεια, οὐ μᾶλλον ἡ εὔνοια, ἡ αἰδώς. τί τούτων διὰ τὸ ἔπαινεῖσθαι καλόν ἔστιν, ἡ ψεγόμενον φθείρεται; σμαράγδιον γὰρ ἑαυτοῦ χείρον γίνεται, ἐὰν μὴ ἔπαινῆται; τί δὲ χρυσός, ἐλέφας, πορφύρα, λύρα, μαχαίριον, ἀνθύλλιον, δευδρύφιον;

κα'. Εἰ διαμένουσιν αἱ ψυχαί, πῶς αὐτὰς ἔξ ἀιδίου χωρεῖ ὁ ἀήρ; Πῶς δὲ ἡ γῆ χωρεῖ τὰ τῶν ἐκ τοσούτου αἰώνος θαπτομένων σώματα; ὥσπερ γὰρ ἐνθάδε ἡ τούτων <μετὰ> ποσήν τινα¹ ἐπιδιαμονὴν μεταβολὴ καὶ διάλυσις χώραν ἄλλοις νεκροῖς ποιεῖ, οὕτως αἱ εἰς τὸν ἀέρα μεθιστάμεναι ψυχαί, ἐπὶ ποσὸν συμμείνασαι, μεταβάλλουσι καὶ χέονται καὶ ἔξαπτονται εἰς τὸν τῶν ὅλων σπερματικὸν λόγον ἀναλαμβανόμεναι, καὶ τοῦτον τὸν τρόπον χώραν ταῖς προσσυνοικιζομέναις παρέχουσιν. τοῦτο δ' ἂν τις ἀποκρίναιτο ἐφ' ὑποθέσει τοῦ τὰς ψυχὰς διαμένειν.

2 Χρὴ δὲ μὴ μόνον ἐνθυμεῖσθαι τὸ πλῆθος τῶν θαπτομένων οὔτωσὶ σωμάτων, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸ τῷν ἐκάστης ἡμέρας ἐσθιομένων ζῷων ὑφ' ἡμῶν τε

¹ πρὸς ηντινα PA : <πὶ ποσὴν Rend.: <μετὰ> Cas.

² vii. 15.

² cp. Tzetz. Chil. vii. 806.

³ iii. 3 ; vi. 24 ; vii. 32, 50 ; viii. 25, 58 ; xii. 5. The Stoic doctrine on this point was not very definite, but it was

BOOK IV

20. Everything, which has any sort of beauty of its own, is beautiful of itself, and looks no further than itself, not counting praise as part of itself. For indeed that which is praised is made neither better nor worse thereby. This is true also of the things that in common parlance are called beautiful, such as material things and works of art. Does, then, the truly beautiful need anything beyond? Nay, no more than law, than truth, than kindness, than modesty. Which of these owes its beauty to being praised, or loses it by being blamed? What! Does an emerald¹ forfeit its excellence by not being praised? Does gold, ivory, purple, a lyre, a poniard, a floweret, a shrub?

21. If souls outlive their bodies, how does the air contain them² from times everlasting? How does the earth contain the bodies of those who have been buried in it for such endless ages? For just as on earth the change of these bodies, after continuance for a certain indefinite time, followed by dissolution, makes room for other dead bodies, so souls, when transferred into the air, after lasting for a certain time,³ suffer change and are diffused and become fire, being taken again into the Seminal Reason of the Whole, and so allow room for those that subsequently take up their abode there. This would be the answer one would give on the assumption that souls outlive their bodies.

But not only must the multitude of bodies thus constantly being buried be taken into account, but also that of the creatures devoured daily by ourselves

mostly held that souls might exist till the next cyclical conflagration, when they became merged into the *λόγος σπερματικός*. Marcus wavers in his belief.

MARCUS AURELIUS

καὶ τῶν ἄλλων ζώων. ὅσος γὰρ ἀριθμὸς καταναλίσκεται καὶ οὐτωσί πως θάπτεται ἐν τοῖς τῶν τρεφομένων σώμασι· καὶ ὅμως δέχεται ἡ χώρα αὐτὰ διὰ τὰς ἔξαιματώσεις, διὰ τὰς εἰς τὸ ἀερῶδες ἡ πυρῶδες ἀλλοιώσεις.

- 3 Τίς ἐπὶ τούτου ἡ ἴστορία τῆς ἀληθείας; διαίρεσις εἰς τὸ ὑλικὸν καὶ εἰς τὸ αἰτιῶδες.

κβ'. Μὴ ἀπορρέμβεσθαι· ἀλλ' ἐπὶ πάσης ὄρμῆς τὸ δίκαιον ἀποδιδόναι καὶ ἐπὶ πάσης φαντασίας σώζειν τὸ καταληπτικόν.

κγ'. Πᾶν μοι συναρμόζει, δο σοὶ εὐάρμοστόν ἔστιν, ὡς κόσμε. οὐδέν μοι πρόώρον οὐδὲ ὅψιμον τὸ σοὶ εὔκαιρον. πᾶν μοι καρπός, δο φέρουσιν αἱ σαὶ ωραὶ, ὡς φύσις· ἐκ σοῦ πάντα, ἐν σοὶ πάντα, εἰς σὲ πάντα. ἐκεῖνος μέν φησι, “Πόλι φίλη Κέκροπος.” σὺ δὲ οὐκ ἔρεις, ““Ω πόλι φίλη Διός;”

κδ. ““Ολίγα πρῆσσε,” φησίν, “εἰ μέλλεις εὐθυμήσειν.” μήποτε ἄμεινον τάναγκαῖα πράσσειν, καὶ ὅσα ὁ τοῦ φύσει πολιτικοῦ ζώου λόγος αἴρει καὶ ὡς αἴρει; τοῦτο γὰρ οὐ μόνον τὴν ἀπὸ τοῦ καλῶς πράσσειν εὐθυμίαν φέρει, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὴν ἀπὸ τοῦ ὀλίγα πράσσειν. τὰ πλεῖστα γάρ, ὡν λέγομεν καὶ πράσσομεν οὐκ ἀναγκαῖα ὄντα ἐάν τις περιέλῃ, εὐσχολώτερος καὶ ἀταρακτότερος ἔσται. ὅθεν δεῖ καὶ παρ’ ἔκαστα ἑαυτὸν ὑπομιμήσκειν, μή τι τοῦτο οὐ τῶν ἀναγκαίων; δεῖ δὲ μὴ μόνον πράξεις τὰς μὴ ἀναγκαίας περιαιρεῖν ἀλλὰ καὶ

¹ cp. Fronto, *ad Cues.* i. 6; Athenag. *Apol.* 36. Apuleius (*Met.* iv. *ad init.*) calls beasts the living tombs of condemned criminals. Longinus (*de Subl.* iii.) inveighs against the trope, as used by Gorgias of Leontini. ² vii. 29.

³ Nature, God, and the Universe were identical in the Stoic creed; see Sen. *N.Q.* ii. 45.

BOOK IV

and the other animals. How great is the number consumed and thus in a way buried¹ in the bodies of those who feed upon them! And yet room is made for them all by their conversion into blood, by their transmutation into air or fire.

Where in this case lies the way of search for the truth? In a separation of the Material from the Causal.²

22. Be not whirled aside; but in every impulse fulfil the claims of justice, and in every impression safeguard certainty.

23. All that is in tune with thee, O Universe,³ is in tune with me! Nothing that is in due time for thee is too early or too late for me! All that thy seasons bring, O Nature, is fruit for me! All things come from thee, subsist in thee, go back to thee.⁴ There is one who says *Dear City of Cecrops*⁵! Wilt thou not say *O dear City of Zeus*?

24. *If thou wouldest be tranquil in heart*, says the Sage,⁶ *do not many things*. Is not this a better maxim: do but what is needful, and what the reason of a living creature born for a civic life demands, and as it demands. For this brings the tranquillity which comes of doing few things no less than of doing them well. For nine tenths of our words and deeds being unnecessary, if a man retrench there, he will have more abundant leisure and fret the less. Wherefore forget not on every occasion to ask thyself, *Is this one of the unnecessary things?* But we must retrench not only actions but thoughts which are

¹ St. Paul, Rom. xi. 36, οξ αὐτοῦ δι' αὐτοῦ εἰς αὐτὸν τὰ πάντα.

² Seemingly a Fragment from Aristophanes.

³ Democritus (Stob. i. 100), τὸν εὐθυμεῖσθαι μέλλοντα χρὴ μὴ πολλὰ πρῆσσειν; iii. 5; Sen. de Tran. 12, *Hanc stabilem animi sedem Graeci εὐθυμίαν vocant, de qua Democriti volumen egregium est: ego Tranquillitatem voco.*

MARCUS AURELIUS

φαντασίας· οὕτως γὰρ οὐδὲ πράξεις παρέλκουσαι ἐπακολουθήσουσιν.

κε'. Πείρασον πῶς σοι χωρεῖ καὶ ὁ τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ ἀνθρώπου βίος τοῦ ἀρεσκομένου μὲν τοῖς ἐκ τῶν ὅλων ἀπονεμομένοις, ἀρκουμένου δὲ τῇ ἴδιᾳ πράξει δικαίᾳ καὶ διαθέσει εύμενεῖ.

κς'. Ἐώρακας ἐκεῖνα; ἵδε καὶ ταῦτα. σεαυτὸν μὴ τάρασσε· ἄπλωσον σεαυτόν. ἀμαρτάνει τις; ἔαυτῷ ἀμαρτάνει. συμβέβηκέ σοι τι; καλῶς· ἐκ τῶν ὅλων ἀπ' ἀρχῆς σοι συγκαθείμαρτο καὶ συνεκλώθετο πᾶν τὸ συμβαῖνον. τὸ δὲ ὅλον, βραχὺς ὁ βίος· κερδαντέον τὸ παρὸν σὺν εὐλογιστίᾳ καὶ δίκῃ. νῆφε ἀνειμένος.¹

κζ'. Ἡτοι κόσμος διατεταγμένος ἡ κυκεὼν + συμπεφορημένος² μέν, ἀλλὰ κόσμος.† ἡ ἐν σοὶ μέν τις κόσμος ὑφίστασθαι δύναται, ἐν δὲ τῷ παντὶ ἀκοσμίᾳ, καὶ ταῦτα οὕτως πάντων διακεκριμένων καὶ διακεχυμένων καὶ συμπαθῶν;

κη'. Μέλαν ἥθος, θῆλυ ἥθος, περισκελὲς ἥθος, θηριώδεις, βοσκηματώδεις, παιδαριώδεις, βλακικόν, κίβδηλον, βωμολόχον, καπηλικόν, τυραννικόν.

κθ'. Εἰ ἔνος κόσμου ὁ μὴ γνωρίζων τὰ ἐν αὐτῷ ὅντα, οὐχ ἥττον ἔνος καὶ ὁ μὴ γνωρίζων τὰ γινόμενα. φυγάς, ὁ φεύγων τὸν πολιτικὸν λόγον.

¹ ἀνειμέρως A.

² συμπεφυρμένος Schultz, but cp. Plato, Phaed. 253 ε: Rendall reads ἀλλὰ μὴν κόσμος ή.

¹ iv. 37; ix. 37. Dio (71. 34 §§ 4, 5) says of Marcus οὐδὲν προσποίητον εἶχε, and he is a far better authority than Capit. xxix. 6 and xx. 1-4. ² ix. 4, 38. ³ iii. 11; iv. 34.

BOOK IV

unnecessary, for then neither will distracting actions follow.

25. Try living the life of the good man who is more than content with what is allotted to him out of the whole, and is satisfied with his own acts as just and his own disposition as kindly: see how that answers.

26. Hast thou looked on that side of the picture? Look now on this! Fret not thyself; study to be simple.¹ Does a man do wrong? The wrong rests with him.² Has something befallen thee? It is well. Everything that befalls was from the beginning destined and spun³ for thee as thy share out of the Whole. In a word, life is short.⁴ Make profit of the present by right reasoning and justice. In thy relaxation be sober.

27. Either there is a well-arranged Order of things or a medley that is confused,⁵ yet still an order. Or can a sort of order subsist in thee, while in the Universe there is no order, and that too when all things, though separated and dispersed, are still in sympathetic connexion?

28. A black character,⁶ an unmanly character, an obstinate character, inhuman, animal, childish, stupid, counterfeit, shameless, mercenary, tyrannical.⁷

29. If he is an alien in the Universe who has no cognizance of the things that are in it, no less is he an alien⁸ who has no cognizance of what is happening in it. He is an exile, who exiles himself from civic

⁴ iv. 17. ⁵ vi. 10. ⁶ iv. 18.

⁷ Marcus here in his vehemence seems to violate his own gentle precepts. He must be thinking of some monster of iniquity, such as Nero.

⁸ iv. 46. cp. 1 St. Peter, iv. 12.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τυφλός, ὁ καταμύων τῷ νοερῷ δύματι· πτωχός, ὁ ἐνδεής ἑτέρου καὶ μὴ πάντα ἔχων παρ' ἑαυτοῦ τὰ εἰς τὸν βίον χρήσιμα· ἀπόστημα κόσμου, ὁ ἀφιστάμενος καὶ χωρίζων ἑαυτὸν τοῦ τῆς κοινῆς φύσεως λόγου διὰ τοῦ δυσαρεστεῦν τοῖς συμβαινουσιν· ἐκείνη γὰρ φέρει τοῦτο, ἢ καὶ σὲ ἡνεγκεν· ἀπόσχισμα πόλεως, ὁ τὴν ἴδιαν ψυχὴν τῆς τῶν λογικῶν ἀποσχίζων, μᾶς οὔσης.

λ'. 'Ο μὲν χωρὶς χιτῶνος φιλοσοφεῖ, ὁ δὲ χωρὶς βιβλίου· ἄλλος οὗτος ἡμίγυμνος, "Ἄρτους οὐκ ἔχω," φησί, "καὶ ἐμμένω τῷ λόγῳ." ἐγὼ δὲ "τροφὰς τὰς ἐκ τῶν μαθημάτων οὐκ ἔχω, καὶ ἐμμένω."

λα'. Τὸ τεχνίον, δὲ ἔμαθει, φίλει, τούτῳ προσαναπαύου· τὸ δὲ ὑπόλοιπον τοῦ βίου διέξελθε, ὡς θεοῖς μὲν ἐπιτετροφώς τὰ σεαυτοῦ πάντα ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ψυχῆς, ἀνθρώπων δὲ μηδενὸς μήτε τύραννον μήτε δοῦλον σεαυτὸν καθιστάς.

λβ'. Ἐπινόησον λόγου χάριν τοὺς ἐπὶ Οὐεσπασιανοῦ καιρούς, δψει ταῦτα πάντα· γαμοῦντας, παιδοτροφοῦντας, νοσοῦντας, ἀποθνήσκοντας, πολεμοῦντας, ἔορτάζοντας, ἐμπορευομένους, γεωργοῦντας, κολακεύοντας, αὐθαδιζομένους, ὑποπτεύοντας, ἐπιβουλεύοντας, ἀποθανεῖν τινας εὐχομένους, γογγύζοντας ἐπὶ τοῖς παροῦσιν, ἐρῶντας, θησαυρίζοντας, ὑπατείας, βασιλείας ἐπιθυμοῦντας. οὐκοῦν ἐκεῖνος μὲν ὁ τούτων βίος οὐκ ἔτι οὐδαμοῦ.

2 Πάλιν ἐπὶ τοὺς καιροὺς τοὺς Τραϊανοῦ μετάβηθι· πάλιν τὰ αὐτὰ πάντα· τέθνηκε κάκεῦνος ὁ βίος.

¹ St. Matt. xiii. 15.

² ii. 16.

³ viii. 34. cp. St. Paul, Rom. xii. 5; 1 Cor. xii. 20 f.

BOOK IV

reason ; blind, he who will not see with the eyes of his understanding¹ ; a beggar, he who is dependent on another, and cannot draw from his own resources all that his life requires ; an imposthume² on the Universe, he who renounces, and severs himself from, the reason of our common Nature, because he is ill pleased at what happens—for the same Nature brings this into being, that also brought thee ; a limb cut off from the community,³ he who cuts off his own soul from the soul of all rational things, which is but one.

30. One philosopher goes without a shirt, a second without a book, a third yonder half-naked : says he, *I am starving for bread, yet cleave I fast to Reason ; and I get no living out of my learning, yet cleave I to her.*

31. Cherish the art, though humble, that thou hast learned, and take thy rest therein ; and pass through the remainder of thy days as one that with his whole soul has given all that is his in trust to the Gods, and has made of himself neither a tyrant nor a slave to any man.

32. Think by way of illustration upon the times of Vespasian, and thou shalt see all these things : mankind marrying, rearing children, sickening, dying, warring, making holiday, trafficking, tilling, flattering others, vaunting themselves, suspecting, scheming, praying for the death of others,⁴ murmuring at their own lot, loving, hoarding, coveting a consulate, coveting a kingdom. Not a vestige of that life of theirs is left anywhere any longer.

Change the scene again to the times of Trajan. Again it is all the same ; that life too is dead. In like

⁴ See a characteristic anecdote of Marcus' mother, Capit. vi. 9.

MARCUS AURELIUS

όμοιώς καὶ τὰς ἄλλας ἐπιγραφὰς χρόνων καὶ
ὅλων ἔθνων ἐπιθεώρει, καὶ βλέπε πόσοι κατευ-
ταθέντες μετὰ μικρὸν ἔπεσον καὶ ἀνελύθησαν εἰς
τὰ στοιχεῖα. μάλιστα δὲ ἀναπολητέον ἐκείνους,
οὓς αὐτὸς ἔγνως κενὰ σπωμένους, ἀφέντας ποιεῦν
τὸ κατὰ τὴν ἴδιαν κατασκευὴν καὶ τούτου ἀπρὶξ
ἔχεσθαι καὶ τούτῳ ἀρκεῖσθαι. ἀναγκαῖον δὲ
ῶδε τὸ μεμνῆσθαι, ὅτι καὶ ἡ ἐπιστροφὴ καθ'
ἐκάστην πρᾶξιν ἴδιαν ἀξίαν ἔχει καὶ συμμετρίαν.
οὕτως γὰρ οὐκ ἀποδυσπετήσεις, ἐὰν μὴ ἐπὶ
πλέον ἡ προσῆκε περὶ τὰ ἐλάσσω καταγίνη.

λγ'. Αἱ πάλαι συνήθεις λέξεις γλωσσήματα
νῦν. οὕτως οὖν καὶ τὰ ὄνόματα τῶν πάλαι
πολυυμνήτων νῦν τρόπον τινὰ γλωσσήματά ἔστι,
Κάμιλλος, Καίσων, Οὐόλεσος, Δέντατος,¹ κατ'
ὁλίγον δὲ καὶ Σκιπίων, καὶ Κάτων, εἴτα καὶ
Αὔγουστος, εἴτα καὶ Ἀδριανὸς καὶ Ἀντωνῖνος.
ἔξιτηλα γὰρ πάντα καὶ μυθώδη ταχὺ γίνεται·
ταχὺ δὲ καὶ παντελὴς λήθη κατέχωσεν. καὶ
ταῦτα λέγω ἐπὶ τῶν θαυμαστῶν πως λαμψάντων.
οἱ γὰρ λοιποὶ ἄμα τῷ ἐκπνεύσαι “ἄιστοι,
ἄπυστοι.” τί δὲ καὶ ἔστιν ὅλως τὸ ἀείμνηστον;
ὅλον κενόν. τί οὖν ἔστι, περὶ δὲ δεῖ σπουδὴν
εἰσφέρεσθαι; ἐν τούτῳ, διανοια δικαία καὶ
πράξεις κοινωνικαὶ καὶ λόγος οἷος μήποτε
διαψεύσασθαι καὶ διάθεσις ἀσπαζομένη πᾶν τὸ
συμβαῖνον ώς ἀναγκαῖον, ώς γνώριμον, ώς ἀπ'
ἀρχῆς τοιαύτης καὶ πηγῆς ρέον.

¹ Οὐόλεσος PA: Οὐολόγεσος Mo²: Λεοννάτος PA: Δέν-
τατος Wyse.

¹ iii. 11 *ad fin.*

² vii. 6.

BOOK IV

manner contemplate all the other records of past time and of entire nations, and see how many after all their high-strung efforts sank down so soon in death and were resolved into the elements. But above all must thou dwell in thought upon those whom thou hast thyself known, who, following after vanity, neglected to do the things that accorded with their own constitution and, cleaving steadfastly thereto, to be content with them. And here it is essential to remember that a due sense of value¹ and proportion should regulate the care bestowed on every action. For thus wilt thou never give over in disgust, if thou busy not thyself beyond what is right with the lesser things.

33. Expressions once in use are now obsolete. So also the names of those much be-sung² heroes of old are in some sense obsolete, Camillus, Caeso, Volesus,³ Dentatus, and a little later Scipio and Cato, then also Augustus, and then Hadrianus and Antoninus. For all things quickly fade away and become legendary, and soon absolute oblivion encains them. And here I speak of those who made an extraordinary blaze in the world. For the rest, as soon as the breath is out of their bodies, it is, *Out of sight, out of mind.*⁴ But what, when all is said, is even everlasting remembrance⁵? Wholly vanity. What then is it that calls for our devotion? This one thing: justice in thought, in act unselfishness and a tongue that cannot lie and a disposition ready to welcome all that befalls as unavoidable, as familiar,⁶ as issuing from a like origin and fountain-head.

³ Volesus, or Volusus, was the family name of the Valerii. Valerius Poplicola must be meant, the obsolete name adding to the point. ⁴ Hom. *Od.* i. 242. ⁵ iv. 19. ⁶ iv. 44.

MARCUS AURELIUS

λδ. Ἐκῶν σεαυτὸν τῇ Κλωθοῖ συνεπιδίδου, παρέχων συνυῆσαι οἰστισί ποτε πράγμασι βούλεται.

λε'. Πᾶν ἐφήμερον, καὶ τὸ μνημονεῦον καὶ τὸ μνημονεύόμενον.

λς'. Θεώρει διηγεκῶς πάντα κατὰ μεταβολὴν γινόμενα καὶ ἐθίζου ἐννοεῖν, ὅτι οὐδὲν οὔτως φίλει ἡ τῶν ὅλων φύσις ώς τὸ τὰ δυτα μεταβάλλειν, καὶ ποιεῖν νέα ὅμοια. σπέρμα γὰρ τρόπου τινὰ πᾶν τὸ δὲ τοῦ ἔξ αὐτοῦ ἐσομένου. σὺ δὲ μόνα σπέρματα φαντάζῃ τὰ εἰς γῆν ἡ μήτραν καταβαλλόμενα· τοῦτο δὲ λίαν ἴδιωτικόν.

λζ'. Ἡδη τεθνήξῃ, καὶ οὕπω οὔτε ἀπλοῦς, οὔτε ἀτάραχος, οὔτε ἀνύποπτος τοῦ βλαβῆναι ἀν ἔξωθεν, οὔτε ἵλεως πρὸς πάντας, οὔτε τὸ φρονεῖν ἐν μόνῳ τῷ δικαιοπραγεῖν τιθέμενος.

λη'. Τὰ ἡγεμονικὰ αὐτῶν διάβλεπε, καὶ τοὺς φρονίμους, οἷα μὲν φεύγοντιν, οἷα δὲ διώκοντιν.

λθ'. Ἐν ἀλλοτρίῳ ἡγεμονικῷ κακὸν σὸν οὐχ ὑφίσταται· οὐδὲ μὴν ἐν τινι τροπῇ καὶ ἐτεροιώσει τοῦ περιέχοντος. ποῦ οὖν; ὅπου τὸ περὶ κακῶν ὑπολαμβάνον σοί ἔστι. τοῦτο οὖν μὴ ὑπολαμβανέτω, καὶ πάντα εὖ ἔχει. κἄν τὸ ἐγγυτάτω αὐτοῦ, τὸ σωμάτιον, τέμνηται, καίηται, διαπισκηται, σήπηται, ὅμως τὸ ὑπολαμβάνον περὶ τούτων μόριον ἡσυχαζέτω· τουτέστι, κρινέτω μήτε κακόν τι εἶναι μήτε ἀγαθόν, δὲ ἐπίσης δύναται κακῷ ἀνδρὶ καὶ ἀγαθῷ συμβαίνειν. δὲ γὰρ <καὶ τῷ παρὰ φύσιν>¹ καὶ τῷ κατὰ φύσιν

¹ <καὶ τῷ παρὰ φύσιν> Cas. Gat.

¹ cp. Herodian (i. 2, § 4) of Marcus, τοὺς προσίοντας δεξιούς, and Aristides, ad Reg. § 112 (Jebb).

BOOK IV

34. Offer thyself whole-heartedly to Clotho, letting her spin thy thread to serve what purpose soever she will.

35. Ephemeral all of them, the rememberer as well as the remembered!

36. Unceasingly contemplate the generation of all things through change, and accustom thyself to the thought that the Nature of the Universe delights above all in changing the things that exist and making new ones of the same pattern. For in a manner everything that exists is the seed of that which shall come out of it. But thou imaginest that only to be seed that is deposited in the earth or the womb, a view beyond measure unphilosophical.

37. A moment and thou wilt be dead; and not even yet art thou simple, nor unperturbed, nor free from all suspicion that thou canst be injured by externals, nor gracious¹ to all, nor convinced that wisdom and just dealing are but one.

38. Consider narrowly their ruling Reason, and see what wise men avoid and what they seek after.²

39. Harm to thee cannot depend on another's ruling Reason, nor yet on any vagary or phase of thy environment. On what then? On the power that is thine of judging what is evil. Let this, then, pass no judgment, and all is well. Even if its closest associate, the poor body, be cut, be burnt, fester, gangrene, yet let the part which forms a judgment³ about these things hold its peace, that is, let it assume nothing to be either good or bad, which can befall a good man or a bad indifferently.⁴ For that which befalls alike the man who lives by the

² cp. iii. 4 *ad init.* This precept does not really contradict what is said in iii. 4 etc. ³ xi. 16. ⁴ ii. 11 *ad med.*

MARCUS AURELIUS

βιοῦντι ἐπίσης συμβαίνει, τοῦτο οὔτε κατὰ φύσιν
ἐστὶν οὔτε παρὰ φύσιν.

μ'. Ὡς ἐν ζῷον τὸν κόσμον μίαν οὐσίαν καὶ
ψυχὴν μίαν ἐπέχον συνεχῶς ἐπινοεῖν· καὶ πῶς
εἰς αἰσθησιν μίαν τὴν τούτου πάντα ἀναδίδοται·
καὶ πῶς ὄρμῆ μιᾶ πάντα πράσσει· καὶ πῶς
πάντα πάντων τῶν γινομένων συναίτια· καὶ οἷα
τις ἡ σύνησις καὶ συμμήρυσις.

μα'. “Ψυχάριον εἴ βαστάζον νεκρόν,” ώς Ἐπί-
κτητος ἔλεγεν.

μβ'. Οὐδέν ἐστι κακὸν τοῖς ἐν μεταβολῇ
γινομένοις· ώς οὐδὲ ἀγαθὸν <τοῖς> ἐκ μεταβολῆς
ὑφισταμένοις.

μγ'. Ποταμός τις ἐκ τῶν γινομένων καὶ ῥεῦμα
βίαιον ὁ αἰών· ἅμα τε γὰρ ὥφθη ἔκαστον καὶ
παρενήνεκται, καὶ ἄλλο παραφέρεται, τὸ δὲ
ἐνεχθήσεται.

μδ'. Πᾶν τὸ συμβαῖνον οὕτως σύνηθες καὶ
γνώριμον, ώς τὸ ρόδον ἐν τῷ ἕαρι καὶ ὀπώρᾳ
ἐν τῷ θέρει· τοιοῦτον γὰρ καὶ νόσος καὶ θάνατος
καὶ βλασφημία καὶ ἐπιβουλὴ καὶ ὅσα τοὺς
μωροὺς εὐφραίνει ἡ λυπεῖ.

μέ'. Τὰ ἔξης ἀεὶ τοῖς προηγησαμένοις οἰκείως
ἐπιγίνεται· οὐ γὰρ οἶον καταρίθμησίς τίς ἐστιν
ἀπηρτημένως¹ καὶ μόνον τὸ κατηναγκασμένον
ἔχουσα, ἀλλὰ συνάφεια εὐλογος· καὶ ὥσπερ
συντέτακται συνηρμοσμένως τὰ δυτα, οὕτως τὰ

¹ ἀπηρτημένων Gat.

¹ A Stoic doctrine, Diog. Laert. Zeno. 36.

² For ἀναδίδοσθαι, cp. v. 26. ³ iii. 11.

⁴ Not now found in his works. Swinburne has “A little

BOOK IV

rule, and the man who lives contrary to the rule, of Nature, is neither in accordance with Nature nor contrary to it.

40. Cease not to think of the Universe as one living Being,¹ possessed of a single Substance and a single Soul ; and how all things trace back to its single sentience ;² and how it does all things by a single impulse ; and how all existing things are joint causes of all things that come into existence ; and how intertwined in the fabric is the thread and how closely woven the web.³

41. Thou art a *little soul bearing up a corpse*, as Epictetus said.⁴

42. Nothing is evil to that which is subject to change, even as there is no good for that which exists as the result of change.

43. As a river⁵ consisting of all things that come into being, aye, a rushing torrent, is Time. No sooner is a thing sighted than it is carried past, and lo, another is passing, and it too will be carried away.

44. Everything that happens is as usual and familiar,⁶ as the rose in spring and the fruit in autumn. The same applies to disease and death and slander and treachery and all that gladdens the foolish or saddens them.

45. That which comes after always has a close relationship to what has gone before. For it is not like some enumeration of items separately taken and following a mere inevitable sequence, but there is a rational connection ; and just as existing things have been combined in a harmonious order, so also

soul for a little bears up this corpse which is man" (*Hymn to Proserpine*). cp. Ignat. ad Smyrn. 5 νεκροφόρος.

⁵ ii. 17 ; v. 23 ; vi. 15 (Heraclitus).

⁶ iv. 33.

MARCUS AURELIUS

γινόμενα οὐ διαδοχὴν ψιλὴν ἀλλὰ θαυμαστήν τινα οἰκειότητα ἐμφαίνει.

μερ'. Ἐεὶ τοῦ Ἡρακλειτείου μεμνῆσθαι· ὅτι “γῆς θάνατος ὕδωρ” γενέσθαι, καὶ “ὕδατος θάνατος ἀέρα” γενέσθαι, καὶ “ἀέρος πῦρ,” καὶ ἔμπαλιν. μεμνῆσθαι δὲ καὶ “τοῦ ἐπιλανθανομένου, ἡ ἡ ὁδὸς ἄγει” καὶ ὅτι “φῶ μάλιστα διηνεκῶς ὄμιλοῦσι,” λόγῳ τῷ τὰ ὅλα διοικοῦντι, “τούτῳ διαφέρονται” καὶ “οῖς καθ' ἡμέραν ἐγκυροῦσι, ταῦτα αὐτοῖς ξένα φαίνεται” καὶ ὅτι οὐ δεῖ “ώσπερ καθεύδοντας ποιεῖν καὶ λέγειν” καὶ γὰρ καὶ τότε δοκοῦμεν ποιεῖν καὶ λέγειν· καὶ ὅτι οὐ δεῖ “παῖδας τοκεώνων,”¹ τουτέστι κατὰ ψιλόν, “καθότι παρειλήφαμεν.”

μερ'. “Ωσπερ εἴ τίς σοι θεῶν εἰπεν, ὅτι αὔριον τεθνήξῃ ἡ πάντως γε εἰς τρίτην, οὐκ ἔτ' ἀν παρὰ μέγα ἐποιοῦ τὸ εἰς τρίτην μᾶλλον ἡ αὔριον, εἴ γε μὴ ἐσχάτως ἀγεννής εἰ· πόσον γάρ ἔστι τὸ μεταξύ; οὕτως καὶ τὸ εἰς πολλοστὸν ἔτος μᾶλλον ἡ αὔριον μηδὲν μέγα είναι νόμιζε.

μη'. Ἔννοεῖν συνεχῶς πόσοι μὲν ἰατροὶ ἀποτεθνήκασι πολλάκις τὰς ὁφρῦς ὑπὲρ τῶν ἀρρώστων συσπάσαντες· πόσοι δὲ μαθηματικοὶ ἄλλων θανάτους ὡς τι μέγα προειπόντες· πόσοι δὲ φιλόσοφοι, περὶ θανάτου ἡ ἀθανασίας μυρία διατεινάμενοι· πόσοι δὲ ἀριστεῖς πολλοὺς ἀποκτείναντες· πόσοι δὲ τύραννοι ἔξουσίᾳ ψυχῶν

¹ τοκέων ἀν PAD: τοκεώνων Rend. This Ionic word was recovered for Meleager by Headlam (*Anth. Pal.* vii. 79).

¹ vi. 38; vii. 9.

² A favourite with Marcus, see Index II.

³ vi. 42.

BOOK IV

all that comes into being bears the stamp not of a mere succession but of a wonderful relationship.¹

46. Always bear in mind what Heraclitus² said : *The death of earth is to pass into water, and the death of water to pass into air, and of air to pass into fire,* and so back again. Bear in mind too : *the wayfarer who forgets the trend of his way,* and that *men are at variance with the one thing with which they are in the most unbroken communion,* the Reason that administers the whole Universe ; and that *what they encounter every day, this they deem strange ;* and that we must not *act and speak like men asleep,*³—for in fact even in sleep we seem to act and speak ;—and that there should be nothing of the *children from parents style,* that is, no mere perfunctory *what our Fathers have told us.*

47. Just as, if a God had told thee,⁴ *Thou shalt die to-morrow or in any case the day after,* thou wouldest no longer count it of any consequence whether it were the day after to-morrow or to-morrow, unless thou art in the last degree mean-spirited,⁵ for how little is the difference !⁶—so also deem it but a trifling thing that thou shouldest die after ever so many years rather than to-morrow.

48. Cease not to bear in mind how many physicians are dead after puckering up their brows so often over their patients ; and how many astrologers after making a great parade of predicting the death of others ;⁷ and how many philosophers after endless disquisitions on death and immortality ; how many great captains after butchering thousands⁸ ; how many tyrants after exercising with revolting insolence

¹ cp. the story of Mycerinus (Herod. ii. 129), and M. Arnold's poem. ⁵ Sen. N.Q. ii. 59 *ad med.*

⁶ Or *interval*, cp. iv. 50. ⁷ iii. 3. Epict. iii. 10, 15. ⁸ *ibid.*

MARCUS AURELIUS

μετὰ δεινοῦ φρυάγματος ὡς ἀθάνατοι κεχρημένοι· πόσαι δὲ πόλεις ὅλαι, ἵν' οὕτως εἴπω, τεθνήκασιν, Ἐλίκη καὶ Πομπίῃοι καὶ Ἡρκλάνον καὶ ἄλλαι ἀναρίθμητοι.

2 "Ἐπιθι δὲ καὶ ὅσους οἰδας, ἄλλον ἐπ' ἄλλῳ· ὁ μὲν τούτου κηδεύσας εἴτα ἔξετάθη, ὁ δὲ ἐκεῖνον πάντα δὲ ἐν βραχεῖ. τὸ γὰρ ὅλον, κατιδεῖν ἀεὶ τὰ ἀνθρώπινα ὡς ἐφήμερα καὶ εὐτελῆ, καὶ ἔχθες μὲν μυξάριον, αὔριον δὲ τάριχος ἢ τέφρα. τὸ ἀκαριαῖον οὖν τούτου τοῦ χρόνου κατὰ φύσιν διελθεῖν, καὶ ἵλεων καταλῦσαι, ὡς ἀν εἰ ἐλαία πέπειρος γενομένη ἐπιπτεν εὐφημοῦσα τὴν ἐνεγκοῦσαν καὶ χάριν εἰδυῖα τῷ φύσαντι δένδρῳ.

μθ'. "Ομοιον εἶναι τῇ ἀκρᾳ, ἢ διηνεκῶς τὰ κύματα προσρήσσεται· ἢ δὲ ἔστηκε, καὶ περὶ αὐτὴν κοιμίζεται τὰ φλεγμῆναντα τοῦ ὕδατος.

2 "'Ατυχῆς ἐγώ, ὅτι τοῦτο μοι συνέβη.' οὐμενοῦν ἀλλ' "εὐτυχῆς ἐγώ, ὅτι τούτου μοι συμβεβηκότος ἄλυπος διατελῶ οὔτε ὑπὸ <τοῦ> παρόντος θραυσμένος οὔτε <τὸ> ἐπιὸν φοβούμενος." συμβῆναι μὲν γὰρ τὸ τοιοῦτο παντὶ ἐδύνατο· ἄλυπος δὲ οὐ πᾶς ἐπὶ τούτῳ ἀν διετέλεσεν. διὰ τί οὖν ἐκεῖνο μᾶλλον ἀτύχημα ἢ τοῦτο εὐτύχημα; λέγεις δὲ ὅλως ἀτύχημα ἀνθρώπου, δοκεῖ διὰ τοῦτο τοῦτον εἶναι δοκεῖ σοι, δοκεῖ παρὰ τὸ βούλημα τῆς φύσεως αὐτοῦ ἐστιν; τί οὖν; τὸ βούλημα μεμάθηκας· μή τι οὖν τὸ συμβεβηκὸς τοῦτο κωλύει σε δίκαιον

¹ Lucian uses it, *Charon* 23.

² x. 34. This is invariably referred to δ μέν, "another closed his eyes," but it must surely answer to τοῦτον.

BOOK IV

their power of life and death, as though themselves immortal ; and how many entire cities are, if I may use the expression, dead,¹ Helice and Pompeii and Herculaneum, and others without number.

Turn also to all, one after another, that come within thine own knowledge. One closed a friend's eyes and was then himself laid out, and the friend who closed his,² he too was laid out—and all this in a few short years. In a word, fail not to note how short-lived are all mortal things, and how paltry—yesterday a little mucus,³ to-morrow a mummy or burnt ash. Pass then through this tiny span of time in accordance with Nature, and come to thy journey's end with a good grace, just as an olive falls when it is fully ripe, praising the earth that bare it and grateful to the tree that gave it growth.

49. Be like a headland of rock on which the waves break incessantly ; but it stands fast and around it the seething of the waters sinks to rest.

Ah, unlucky am I, that this has befallen me ! Nay, but rather, lucky am I, that though this has befallen me, yet am I still unhurt, neither crushed by the present nor dreading the future. For something of the kind could have befallen everyone, but everyone would not have remained unhurt in spite of it. Why then count that rather a misfortune than this a good fortune ? And in any case dost thou reckon that a misfortune for a man which is not an aberration from his nature ? And wouldest thou have that to be an aberration from a man's nature, which does not contravene the will of his nature ! What then ? This will thou hast learnt to know. Does what has befallen thee hinder thee one whit from being just,

³ vi. 13.

MARCUS AURELIUS

είναι, μεγαλόψυχον, σώφρονα, ἔμφρονα, ἀπρόπτωτον, ἀδιάψευστον, αἰδήμονα, ἐλεύθερον, τἄλλα, ὃν παρόντων ἡ φύσις ἡ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἀπέχει τὰ ἴδια; μέμνησο λοιπὸν ἐπὶ παντὸς τοῦ εἰς λύπην σε προαγομένου, τούτῳ χρῆσθαι τῷ δόγματι. “Οὐχ ὅτι τοῦτο ἀτύχημα, ἀλλὰ τὸ φέρειν αὐτὸ γενναίως εὐτύχημα.”

ν'. Ιδιωτικὸν μέν, ὅμως δὲ ἀνυστικὸν βοήθημα πρὸς θανάτου καταφρόνησιν ἡ ἀναπόλησις τῶν γλίσχρως ἐνδιατριψάντων τῷ ζῆν. τί οὖν αὐτοῖς πλέον ἡ τοῖς ἀώροις; πάντως πού ποτε κείνται, Καδικιανός, Φάβιος, Ιουλιανός, Λέπιδος, ἡ εἴ τις τοιοῦτος, οἱ πολλοὺς ἐξήνεγκαν, εἴτα ἐξηνέχθησαν· δόλον, μικρόν ἐστι τὸ διάστημα, καὶ τοῦτο δὶ’ ὅσων καὶ μεθ’ οἶων ἐξαντλούμενον καὶ ἐν οἴῳ σωματίῳ; μὴ οὖν ὡς πρᾶγμα. βλέπε γὰρ ὄπίσω τὸ ἀχανὲς τοῦ αἰῶνος, καὶ τὸ πρόσω ἄλλο ἄπειρον. ἐν δὴ τούτῳ, τί διαφέρει ὁ τριήμερος τοῦ τριγερηνίου;

να'. Ἐπὶ τὴν σύντομον ἀεὶ τρέχει σύντομος δὲ ἡ κατὰ φύσιν, ὥστε κατὰ τὸ ὑγιέστατον πᾶν λέγειν καὶ πράσσειν. ἀπαλλάσσει γὰρ ἡ τοιαύτη πρόθεσις κόπων καὶ στρατείας,¹ καὶ πάσης οἰκονομίας καὶ κομψείας.

¹ στραγγείας (*vacillation*) Stephan. But Pollux in his Onomasticon, dedicated to Commodus in Marcus' lifetime, rejects the word.

² iv. 48, § 2.

³ τριγερήνιος, a clever conflation between τριγέρων and Γερήνιος, an epithet of Nestor from a town in Messenia.

BOOK IV

high-minded, chaste, sensible, deliberate, straightforward, modest, free, and from possessing all the other qualities, the presence of which enables a man's nature to come fully into its own? Forget not in future, when anything would lead thee to feel hurt, to take thy stand upon this axiom: *This is no misfortune, but to bear it nobly is good fortune.*

50. An unphilosophical, but none the less an effective, help to the contemning of death is to tell over the names of those who have clung long and tenaciously to life. How are they better off than those who were cut off before their time? After all, they lie buried somewhere at last, Cadicianus, Fabius, Julianus, Lepidus, and any others like them, who after carrying many to their graves were at last carried to their own.¹ Small, in any point of view, is the difference² in length, and that too lived out to the dregs amid what great cares and with what sort of companions and in what kind of a body! Count it then of no consequence. For look at the yawning gulf of Time behind thee, and before thee at another Infinity to come. In this Eternity the life of a baby of three days and the life of a Nestor of three centuries³ are as one.⁴

51. Run ever the short way; and the short way is the way of Nature, that leads to all that is most sound in speech and act. For a resolve such as this is a release from troubles and strife, from all mental reservation⁵ and affectation.

⁴ cp. Ecclesiasticus, xli. 4.

⁵ iv. 19.

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ Ε

α'. Ὁρθρου ὅταν δυσόκυως ἔξεγείρη, πρόχειρον
ἔστω, ὅτι “ἐπὶ ἀνθρώπου ἔργου ἔγείρομαι”¹ ἔτι
οὐν¹ δυσκολαίνω, εἰ πορεύομαι ἐπὶ τὸ ποιεῖν, ὃν
ἔνεκεν γέγονα, καὶ ὃν χάριν προῆγμαί εἰς τὸν
κόσμον; ἡ ἐπὶ τοῦτο κατεσκεύασμαί, ἵνα κατακείμ-
ενος ἐν στρωματίοις ἐμαυτὸν θάλπω; “Αλλὰ τοῦτο
ἥδιον.” πρὸς τὸ ἥδεσθαι οὖν γέγονας; ὅλως δὲ
σὺ² πρὸς πεῖσιν,³ ἡ πρὸς ἐνέργειαν; οὐ βλέπεις
τὰ φυτάρια, τὰ στρουθάρια, τοὺς μύρμηκας, τοὺς
ἀράχνας, τὰς μελίσσας τὸ ἴδιον ποιούσας, τὸ⁴
καθ' αὐτὰς συγκροτούσας κόσμον; ἔπειτα σὺ οὐ
θέλεις τὰ ἀνθρωπικὰ ποιεῖν; οὐ τρέχεις ἐπὶ τὸ
κατὰ τὴν σὴν φύσιν; “Αλλὰ δεῖ καὶ ἀναπαύ-
εσθαι.” φημὶ κἀγώ· ἔδωκε μέντοι καὶ τούτου
μέτρα ἡ φύσις· ἔδωκε μέντοι καὶ τοῦ ἐσθίειν καὶ
πίνειν· καὶ ὅμως σὺ ὑπὲρ τὰ μέτρα, ὑπὲρ τὰ
ἀρκοῦντα προχωρεῖς· ἐν δὲ ταῖς πράξεσιν οὐκ ἔτι,
ἀλλ' ἐντὸς τοῦ δυνατοῦ.

¹ τί οὖν Menag.

² οὐ PAD: σὺ Schmidt.

³ ποιεῖν P: <τὸ> ποιεῖν Cor.: ποίησιν Wilam.

⁴ τὸν PD: συγκοσμούσας P.

¹ ii. 1.

² Marcus in younger days was an early riser, getting up even at 3 o'clock (Fronto, *ad Caes.* iv. 5) or 5 o'clock (*ibid.*

BOOK V

1. At daybreak,¹ when loth to rise,² have this thought ready in thy mind : *I am rising for a man's work.* Am I then still peevish that I am going to do that for which I was born and for the sake of which I came into the world ? Or was I made for this, that I should nuzzle under the bed-clothes and keep myself warm ? *But this is pleasanter.* Hast thou been made then for pleasure, in a word, I ask thee, to be acted upon or to act ? Consider each little plant, each tiny bird, the ant, the spider, the bee, how they go about their own work and do each his part for the building up of an orderly Universe. Dost thou then refuse to do the work of a man ? Dost thou not hasten to do what Nature bids thee. *But some rest, too, is necessary.* I do not deny it. Howbeit Nature has set limits to this, and no less so to eating and drinking. Yet thou exceedest these limits and exceedest sufficiency. But in acts it is no longer so ; there thou comest short of the possibility.

iv. 6). He admits sleepiness of habit (*ibid.* i. 4 ; v. 59), but says it is so cold in his bedroom that he can scarcely put his hands outside his bedclothes. Fronto constantly urges him to take more sleep (*ibid.* ii. 5 ; v. 1, 2 ; *de Fer. Als.* 2, Nab. p. 227) : *sleep as much as a free man should !* At the last he suffered dreadfully from insomnia, see Galen xiv. 3 (Kühn) ; Dio 71. 24, § 4.

MARCUS AURELIUS

2 Οὐ γὰρ φιλεῖς σεαυτόν ἐπεί τοι καὶ τὴν φύσιν ἄν σου καὶ τὸ βούλημα ταύτης ἐφίλεις. ἄλλοι δὲ τὰς τέχνας ἑαυτῶν φιλοῦντες συγκατατήκονται τοῖς κατ' αὐτὰς ἔργοις ἄλουτοι καὶ ἀσιτοι· σὺ τὴν φύσιν τὴν σεαυτοῦ ἔλασσον τιμᾶς ἡ ὁ τορευτὴς τὴν τορευτικήν, ἡ ὁ ὄρχηστὴς τὴν ὄρχηστικήν, ἡ ὁ φιλάργυρος τὸ ἀργύριον, ἡ ὁ κενόδοξος τὸ δοξάριον. καὶ οὗτοι, ὅταν προσπαθῶσιν, οὕτε φαγεῖν οὕτε κοιμηθῆναι θέλουσι μᾶλλον ἢ ταῦτα συναύξειν, πρὸς ἀδιαφέρονται· σοὶ δὲ αἱ κοινωνικαὶ πράξεις εὐτελέστεραι φαίνονται καὶ ἥσσονος σπουδῆς ἄξιαι;

β. Ως εὔκολον ἀπώσασθαι καὶ ἀπαλεῖναι πᾶσαν φαντασίαν [τὴν] ὀχληρὰν ἢ ἀνοίκειον καὶ εὐθὺς ἐν πάσῃ γαλήνῃ εἶναι.

γ'. "Ἄξιον ἑαυτὸν κρίνε παντὸς λόγου καὶ ἔργου τοῦ κατὰ φύσιν· καὶ μὴ σε περισπάτω¹ ἡ ἐπακολουθοῦσά τινων μέμψις ἡ λόγος, ἄλλα, εἰ καλὸν πεπρᾶχθαι ἡ εἰρῆσθαι, μὴ σεαυτὸν ἀπαξίου. ἐκεῖνοι μὲν γὰρ ἴδιον ἥγεμονικὸν ἔχουσι καὶ ἴδια ὄρμῇ χρῶνται· ἀ σὺ μὴ περιβλέπου, ἄλλ' εὐθεῖαν πέραινε ἀκολουθῶν τῇ φύσει τῇ ἴδιᾳ καὶ τῇ κοινῇ· μία δὲ ἀμφοτέρων τούτων ἡ ὁδός.

δ. Πορεύομαι διὰ τῶν κατὰ φύσιν, μέχρι πεσὼν ἀναπαύσομαι, ἐναποπνεύσας μὲν τούτῳ, ἐξ οὐ καθ' ἡμέραν ἀναπνέω, πεσὼν δὲ ἐπὶ τούτῳ, ἐξ οὐ καὶ τὸ σπερμάτιον ὁ πατήρ μου συνέλεξε καὶ τὸ αἵματιον ἡ μήτηρ καὶ τὸ γαλάκτιον ἡ τροφός.

¹ Cor. for παρειπάτω.

¹ cf. of Marcus himself καμάτοις καὶ φροντίσι τετρυχωμένος (*Herodian* i. 3, § 1) and Julian, *Conriv.* 407. See Plutarch's

BOOK V

For thou lovest not thyself, else surely hadst thou loved thy nature also and to do her will. But others who love their own art wear themselves to a shadow with their labours over it, forgetting to wash or take food.¹ But thou holdest thine own nature in less honour than the chaser of metal his art of chasing, than the dancer his dancing, than the miser his money-bags, than the popularity-hunter his little applause. And these, when they are exceptionally in earnest, are ready to forgo food and sleep, so that they forward the things in which they are interested. But dost thou deem the acts of a social being of less worth and less deserving of attention ?

2. How easy a thing it is to put away and blot out every impression² that is disturbing or alien, and to be at once in perfect peace.

3. Deem no word or deed that is in accord with Nature to be unworthy of thee, and be not plucked aside by the consequent censure of others or what they say,³ but if a thing is good to do or say, judge not thyself unworthy of it. For those others have their own ruling Reason and follow their own bent. Do not thou turn thine eyes aside, but keep to the straight path, following thy own and the universal Nature ; and the path of these twain is one.⁴

4. I fare forth through all that Nature wills until the day when I shall sink down and rest from my labours, breathing forth my last breath into the air whence I daily draw it in, and falling upon that earth, whence also my father gathered the seed, and my mother the blood, and my nurse the milk ; whence story of Nikias the painter (*de Sen. Polit.* 4 ; *Non posse suar. rirere sec. Epicur.* 11). ² vii. 29 ; viii. 47.

³ x. 11. *cp. St. Peter*, ii. 20.

⁴ iv. 29.

MARCUS AURELIUS

έξ ού καθ' ήμέραν τοσούτοις ἔτεσι βόσκομαι, καὶ ἀρδεύομαι, δὲ φέρει με πατοῦντα, καὶ εἰς τοσαῦτα ἀποχρώμενον αὐτῷ.

ε'. Δριμύτητά σου οὐκ ἔχουσι θαυμάσαι. ἔστω· ἀλλὰ ἔτερα πολλά, ἐφ' ὃν οὐκ ἔχεις εἰπεῖν "Οὐ γὰρ πέφυκα." ἐκεῖνα οὖν παρέχου, ἅπερ ὅλα ἔστιν ἐπὶ σοί, τὸ ἀκίβδηλον, τὸ σεμνόν, τὸ φερέπονον, τὸ ἀφιλήδονον, τὸ ἀμεμψίμοιρον, τὸ ὄλιγοδεές, τὸ εὔμενές, τὸ ἐλεύθερον, τὸ ἀπέρισσον, τὸ ἀφλύαρον, τὸ μεγαλεῖον.¹ οὐκ αἰσθάνῃ πόσα ἥδη παρέχεσθαι δυνάμενος, ἐφ' ὃν οὐδεμία ἀφύιας καὶ ἀνεπιτηδειότητος πρόφασις, ὅμως ἔτι κάτω μένεις ἔκών; ἢ καὶ γογγύζειν, καὶ γλισχρεύεσθαι, καὶ κολακεύειν, καὶ τὸ σωμάτιον καταιτιᾶσθαι, καὶ ἀρεσκεύεσθαι, καὶ περπερεύεσθαι, καὶ τοσαῦτα ριπτάζεσθαι τῇ ψυχῇ διὰ τὸ ἀφυῶς κατεσκευάσθαι ἀναγκάζῃ: οὐ, μὰ τοὺς θεούς. ἀλλὰ τούτων μὲν πάλαι ἀπηλλάχθαι ἐδύνασομόνον δέ, εἰ ἄρα, ως βραδύτερος καὶ δυσπαρακολουθητότερος καταγινώσκεσθαι· καὶ τοῦτο δὲ ἀσκητέου μὴ παρενθυμουμένῳ μηδὲ ἐμφιληδοῦντι τῇ νωθείᾳ.

ε'. 'Ο μέν τις ἔστιν, ὅταν τι δεξιὸν περί τινα πράξῃ, πρόχειρος καὶ λογίσασθαι αὐτῷ τὴν χάριν. ὁ δὲ πρὸς τοῦτο μὲν οὐ πρόχειρος, ἄλλως μέντοι παρ' ἑαυτῷ, ως περὶ χρεωστου διανοεῖται καὶ οἴδεν, δὲ πεποίηκεν. ὁ δέ τις τρόπον τινὰ οὐδὲ

¹ ἀμεγαλεῖον Rend.

¹ vii. 67; cp. Fronto, *ad Ann.* i. 2.

² cp. Hor. *Ep.* i. 1. 28-32. ³ cp. i. 5.

⁴ cp. Aristides, *ad Reg.* § 114 (Jebb) of Marcus, οὐδεμίας ἥδονῆς ἡττημένος; and Fronto, *de Fer. Als.* Nab. p. 225, *volarem facilius quis tibi quam voluptatem conciliaverit.*

BOOK V

daily for so many years I am fed and watered ; which bears me as I tread it under foot and make full use of it in a thousand ways.

5. Sharpness of wit men cannot praise thee for.¹ Granted ! Yet there are many other qualities of which thou canst not say : *I had not that by nature.*² Well then, display those which are wholly in thy power, sterling sincerity, dignity, endurance of toil,³ abstinence from pleasure.⁴ Grumble not at thy lot, be content with little,⁵ be kindly, independent, frugal, serious, high-minded.⁶ Seest thou not how many virtues it is in thy power to display now, in respect of which thou canst plead no natural incapacity or incompatibility, and yet thou art content still with a lower standard ? Or art thou forced to be discontented, to be grasping, to flatter, to inveigh against the body, to play the toady and the braggart, and to be so unstable in thy soul, because forsooth thou hast no natural gifts ? By the Gods, *No !* but long ere now couldest thou have shaken thyself free from all this and have lain under the imputation only, if it must be so, of being somewhat slow and dull of apprehension. And this too thou must amend with training and not ignore thy dulness or be in love with it.

6. One man, when he has done another a kindness, is ready also to reckon on a return.⁷ A second is not ready to do this, but yet in his heart of hearts ranks the other as a debtor, and he is conscious of what he has done⁸ But a third is in a manner not

¹ *cp. i. 5 ; Julian, Conviv. 427.*

² Or *humble*, if we read *ἀμεγαλεῖον*, but *cp. v. 9.*

⁷ St. Luke vi. 34 ; xiv. 12.

⁸ Sen. *de Benef.* ii. 6. But see the speech of Marcus to his soldiers (as reported by Dio, 71. 26, §2) on the revolt of Cassius.

MARCUS AURELIUS

οἰδεν, ὁ πεποίηκεν, ἀλλὰ ὅμοιός ἐστιν ἀμπέλῳ
βότρυν ἐνεγκούσῃ καὶ μηδὲν ἄλλο προσεπι-
ζητούσῃ μετὰ τὸ ἄπαξ τὸν ἴδιον καρπὸν ἐνηνοχ-
έναι, ως ἵππος δραμών, κύων ἵχνεύσας, μέλισσα
μέλι ποιήσασα. ἄνθρωπος δ' <ἐν>¹ εὐ ποιήσας
οὐκ ἐπιβοᾶται,² ἀλλὰ μεταβαίνει ἐφ' ἔτερον, ως
ἄμπελος ἐπὶ τὸ πάλιν ἐν τῇ ὥρᾳ τὸν βότρυν
ἐνεγκεῖν.

2 “Ἐν τούτοις οὖν δεῖ εἶναι τοῖς τρόπον τινὰ
ἀπαρακολουθήτως αὐτὸ ποιοῦσι;” ναί. “Ἄλλ’
αὐτὸ τοῦτο δεῖ παρακολουθεῖν· ἴδιον γὰρ
φησὶ τοῦ κοινωνικοῦ τὸ αἰσθάνεσθαι, ὅτι
κοινωνικῶς ἐνεργεῖ, καὶ νὴ Δία βούλεσθαι καὶ
τὸν κοινωνὸν αἰσθέσθαι.” ἀληθὲς μέν ἐστιν, δὲ
λέγεις· τὸ δὲ νῦν λεγόμενον παρεκδέχῃ· διὰ
τοῦτο ἔσῃ εἰς ἐκείνων, ὃν πρότερον ἐπεμνήσθην·
καὶ γὰρ ἐκεῖνοι λογικῇ τινι πιθανότητι παράγον-
ται. ἐὰν δὲ θελήσῃς συνεῖναι, τί ποτέ ἐστι τὸ
λεγόμενον, μὴ φοβοῦ, μὴ παρὰ τοῦτο παραλίπης
τι ἔργον κοινωνικόν.

ζ. Εὐχὴ Ἀθηναίων· “Τσον, ὑσον, ὡ φίλε
Ζεῦ, κατὰ τῆς ἀρούρας τῆς Ἀθηναίων καὶ τῶν
πεδίων.” ἥτοι οὐ δεῖ εὔχεσθαι ἢ οὕτως ἀπλῶς
καὶ ἐλευθέρως.

η'. ‘Οποῖόν τί ἐστι τὸ λεγόμενον, ὅτι “συν-
έταξεν ὁ Ἀσκληπιὸς τούτῳ ἱππασίαν, ἢ ψυχρο-
λουσίαν, ἢ ἀνυποδησίαν.” τοιοῦτόν ἐστι καὶ τὸ
συνέταξε τούτῳ ἢ τῶν ὅλων φύσις νόσον, ἢ

¹ <ἐν> cp. x. 8.

² ἐπισπᾶται AD.

¹ vii. 73; ix. 42, § 4. cp. Fronto, *de Nep.* 2 ad. fin.

² xi. 4; xii. 29.

³ e.g. a man who acts on the precept, “Let not thy left

BOOK V

conscious of it, but is like the vine that has borne a cluster of grapes, and when it has once borne its due fruit looks for no reward beyond,¹ as it is with a steed when it has run its course, a hound when it has singled out the trail, a bee when she hath made her comb. And so a man when he hath done one thing well, does not cry it abroad, but betakes himself to a second,² as a vine to bear afresh her clusters in due season.

A man then must be of those who act thus as it were unconsciously? Aye. But surely he must be conscious of what he is doing, for it is, we are told, the peculiar attribute of the man of true social instincts to be aware that he puts such instincts into practice,³ and by heaven to wish that his fellow should be aware of it too. True; but thou misconceivest the present argument, and wilt consequently be of the number of those whom I mentioned before; for in fact they are led astray by reasoning which has a plausible look. But if thou thinkest it worth while to understand what has been said, fear not that thou wilt be led thereby to neglect any social act.

7. A prayer of the Athenians: *Rain, Rain, O dear Zeus, upon the corn-land of the Athenians⁴ and their meads.* Either pray not at all, or in this simple and frank fashion.

8. We have all heard, *Aesculapius has prescribed for so and so riding exercise, or cold baths,⁵ or walking barefoot.* Precisely so it may be said that the Universal Nature has prescribed for so and so sickness or

hand know what thy right hand doeth," must act so designedly.

¹ cp. Pausan. i. 24, § 3.

² See the amazing story of an icy bathe prescribed so to Aristides (*Sacr. Serm.* ii. 529, Jebb ff.).

MARCUS AURELIUS

πήρωσιν, ἡ ἀποβολὴν ἡ ἄλλο τι τῶν τοιούτων.
καὶ γὰρ ἐκεῖ τὸ “συνέταξε” τοιοῦτόν τι σημαίνει·
ἔταξε τούτῳ τοῦτο ὡς κατάλληλον πρὸς ὑγίειαν·
καὶ ἐνταῦθα τὸ συμβαῖνον ἐκάστῳ τέτακται πως
αὐτῷ κατάλληλον πρὸς τὴν εἰμαρμένην. οὕτως
γὰρ καὶ “συμβαίνειν” αὐτὰ ἡμῖν λέγομεν, ὡς καὶ
τοὺς τετραγώνους λίθους ἐν τοῖς τείχεσιν ἡ ἐν
ταῖς πυραμίσι, ‘συμβαίνειν’ οἱ τεχνῖται λέγουσι,
συναρμόζοντες ἀλλήλοις τῇ ποιᾷ συνθέσει. ὅλως
γὰρ ἀρμονία ἐστὶ μία, καὶ ὥσπερ ἐκ πάντων τῶν
σωμάτων ὁ κόσμος τοιοῦτον σῶμα συμπληροῦται,
οὕτως ἐκ πάντων τῶν αἰτίων ἡ εἰμαρμένη τοιαύτη
αἰτία συμπληροῦται. νοοῦσι δέ, δ λέγω, καὶ οἱ
τέλεον ἴδιωται· φασὶ γάρ, “Τοῦτο ἔφερεν αὐτῷ.”
οὐκοῦν τοῦτο τούτῳ ἔφέρετο, καὶ τοῦτο τούτῳ
συνετάττετο. δεχώμεθα οὖν αὐτά, ὡς ἐκεῖνα,
ἄ ὁ Ἀσκληπιὸς συντάττει. πολλὰ γοῦν καὶ ἐν
ἐκείνοις ἐστὶ τραχέα· ἀλλὰ ἀσπαζόμεθα τῇ
ἐλπίδι τῆς ὑγίειας.

- 2 Τοιοῦτόν τί σοι δοκείτω, ἄνυστις καὶ συντέλεια
τῶν τῇ κοινῇ φύσει δοκούντων, οἷον ἡ σὴ ὑγίεια·
καὶ οὕτως ἀσπάζου πᾶν τὸ γινόμενον, κὰν ἀπηνέστ-
ερον δοκῆ, διὰ τὸ ἐκεῖσε ἄγειν, ἐπὶ τὴν τοῦ κόσμου
ὑγίειαν, καὶ τὴν τοῦ Διὸς εὐόδίαν καὶ εὐπραγίαν.
οὐ γὰρ ἀν τοῦτό τινι ἔφερεν, εἰ μὴ τῷ ὅλῳ συ-
έφερεν. οὐδὲ γὰρ ἡ τυχοῦσα φύσις φέρει τι, δ
μὴ τῷ διοικουμένῳ ὑπ’ αὐτῆς κατάλληλόν ἐστιν.
 - 3 Οὐκοῦν κατὰ δύο λόγους στέργειν χρὴ τὸ
συμβαῖνόν σοι· καθ’ ἕνα μέν, ὅτι σοὶ ἐγίνετο,
- 106

BOOK V

main or loss or what not of the same kind. For, in the former case, *prescribed* has some such meaning as this : He ordained this for so and so as conducive to his health ; while in the latter what befalls each man has been ordained in some way as conducive to his destiny. For we say that things *fall to us*, as the masons too say that the huge squared stones in walls and pyramids *fall into* their places, adjusting themselves harmoniously to one another in a sort of structural unity. For, in fine, there is one harmony of all things, and just as from all bodies the Universe is made up into such a body as it is, so from all causes is Destiny made up into such a Cause. This is recognized by the most unthinking, for they say : *Fate brought this on him.* So then this was brought on this man, and this prescribed for this man. Let us then accept our fate, as we accept the prescriptions of Aesculapius. And in fact in these, too, there are many "bitter pills," but we welcome them in hope of health.

Take much the same view of the accomplishment and consummation of what Nature approves as of thy health, and so welcome whatever happens, should it even be somewhat distasteful, because it contributes to the health of the Universe and the well-faring and well-doing of Zeus himself. For he had not brought this on a man, unless it had brought welfare to the Whole. For take any nature thou wilt, it never brings upon that which is under its control anything that does not conduce to its interests.

For two reasons then it behoves thee to acquiesce in what befalls : one, that it was for thee it took

MARCUS. AURELIUS

καὶ σοὶ συνετάττετο, καὶ πρὸς σέ πως εἶχεν, ἄνωθεν ἐκ τῶν πρεσβυτάτων αἰτίων συγκλωθόμενον· καθ' ἔτερον δέ, ὅτι τῷ τὸ ὄλον διοικοῦντι τῆς εὐοδίας καὶ τῆς συντελείας καὶ νὴ Δία τῆς συμμονῆς αὐτῆς καὶ τὸ ἴδιᾳ εἰς ἔκαστον ἥκουν αἴτιόν ἐστιν. πηροῦται γὰρ τὸ ὄλόκληρον, ἐὰν καὶ ὀτιοῦν διακόψης τῆς συναφείας καὶ συνεχείας, ὥσπερ τῶν μορίων, οὕτω δὴ καὶ τῶν αἰτίων. διακόπτεις δέ, ὅσον ἐπὶ σοί, ὅταν δυσπεστῆς, καὶ τρόπον τινὰ ἀναιρεῖς.¹

θ'. Μὴ σικχαίνειν μηδὲ ἀπαυδᾶν μηδὲ ἀποδυσπετεῖν, εἰ μὴ καταπυκνοῦται σοι τὸ ἀπὸ δογμάτων ὄρθων ἔκαστα πράσσειν· ἀλλὰ ἐκκρουσθέντα πάλιν ἐπανιέναι καὶ ἀσμενίζειν, εἰ τὰ πλείω ἀνθρωπικώτερα, καὶ φιλεῖν τοῦτο, ἐφ' ὃ ἐπανέρχῃ· καὶ μὴ ως πρὸς παιδαγωγὸν τὴν φιλοσοφίαν ἐπανιέναι· ἀλλ' ως οἱ ὁφθαλμιῶντες πρὸς τὸ σπογγάριον καὶ τὸ ωόν, ως ἄλλος πρὸς κατάπλασμα, ως πρὸς καταιόνησιν. οὕτως γὰρ οὔδεν ἐπιδείξῃ τὸ πειθαρχεῖν τῷ λόγῳ, ἀλλὰ προσαναπαύσῃ αὐτῷ. μέμνησο δέ, ὅτι φιλοσοφία μόνα θέλει, ἂν ἡ φύσις σου θέλει· σὺ δὲ ἄλλο ηθελες οὐ κατὰ φύσιν. “Τί γὰρ τούτων προσηνέστερον;” ἡ γὰρ ἡδονὴ οὐχὶ διὰ τοῦτο σφάλλει; ἀλλὰ θέασαι, εἰ προσηνέστερον μεγαλοψυχία, ἐλευθερία, ἀπλότης, εὐγνωμοσύνη, ὁσιότης. αὐτῆς γὰρ φρονήσεως τί προσηνέστερ-

¹ ἀναιρῆς Ρ.Α.

¹ Or, from above. ² cp. Sen. Ep. 74.

BOOK V

place, and was prescribed for thee, and had reference in some sort to thee, being a thread of destiny spun from the first¹ for thee from the most ancient causes ; the other, that even what befalls each individual is the cause of the well-faring, of the consummation² and by heaven of the very permanence of that which controls the Universe. For the perfection of the Whole is impaired, if thou cuttest off ever so little of the coherence and continuance of the Causes no less than of the parts. And thou dost cut them off, as far as lies with thee, and bring them to an end, when thou murmurrest.

9. Do not feel qualms³ or despondency or discomfiture if thou dost not invariably succeed in acting from right principles ; but when thou art foiled,⁴ come back again to them, and rejoice if on the whole thy conduct is worthy of a man, and love the course to which thou returnest. Come not back to Philosophy as to a schoolmaster, but as the sore-eyed to their sponges and their white of egg, as this patient to his plaster and that to his fomentations. Thus wilt thou rest satisfied with Reason, yet make no parade of obeying her. And forget not that Philosophy wishes but what thy nature wishes, whereas thy wish was for something else that accords not with Nature. *Yes, for it would have been the acme of delight.* Ah, is not that the very reason why pleasure trips us up ? Nay, see if these be not more delightful still : high-mindedness, independence, simplicity, tenderness of heart,⁵ sanctity of life. Why what is more delightful than wisdom herself,

³ Lit. *be nauseated* (*cp. viii. 24*). ⁴ v. 36.

⁵ Galen xii. 17 (Kühn) calls Marcus εὐγνώμων, μέτριος, ημερός, πρᾶος.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ον; ὅταν τὸ ἄπταιστον, καὶ εὔρουν ἐν πᾶσι τῆς παρακολουθητικῆς καὶ ἐπιστημονικῆς δυνάμεως ἐνθυμηθῆς.

ἰ. Τὰ μὲν πράγματα ἐν τοιαύτῃ τρόπον τινὰ ἔγκαλύψει ἔστιν, ὥστε φιλοσόφοις οὐκ ὀλίγοις οὐδὲ τοῖς τυχοῦσιν ἔδοξε παντάπασιν ἀκατάληπτα εἶναι· πλὴν αὐτοῖς γε τοῖς Στωικοῖς δυσκατάληπτα δοκεῖ· καὶ πᾶσα ἡ ἡμετέρα συγκατάθεσις μεταπτωτή· ποῦ γὰρ ὁ ἀμετάπτωτος; μέτιθι τοίνυν ἐπ' αὐτὰ τὰ ὑποκείμενα, ὡς ὀλιγόχρονα καὶ εὐτελῆ καὶ δυνάμενα ἐν κτήσει κιναίδους ἡ πόρνης ἡ ληστοῦ εἶναι. μετὰ τοῦτο ἔπιθι ἐπὶ τὰ τῶν συμβιούντων ἥθη, ὡν μόλις ἐστὶ καὶ τοῦ χαριεστάτου ἀνασχέσθαι, ἵνα μὴ λέγω, ὅτι καὶ ἔαυτόν τις μόγις ὑπομένει.

2 Ἐν τοιούτῳ οὖν ζόφῳ καὶ ρύπῳ καὶ τοσαύτῃ ρύσει τῆς τε οὐσίας καὶ τοῦ χρόνου, καὶ τῆς κινήσεως καὶ τῶν κινουμένων, τί ποτ' ἔστι τὸ ἐκτιμηθῆναι ἡ τὸ ὅλως σπουδασθῆναι δυνάμενον, οὐδὲ ἐπινοῶ. τούναντίον γὰρ δεῖ παραμυθούμενον ἔαυτὸν περιμένειν τὴν φυσικὴν λύσιν, καὶ μὴ ἀσχάλλειν τῇ διατριβῇ, ἀλλὰ τούτοις μόνοις προσαναπαύεσθαι· ἐνὶ μὲν τῷ, ὅτι οὐδὲν συμβῆσται μοι, δο οὐχὶ κατὰ τὴν τῶν ὅλων φύσιν ἔστιν· ἔτέρῳ δέ, ὅτι ἔξεστί μοι μηδὲν πράσσειν παρὰ τὸν ἔμὸν θεὸν καὶ δαίμονα. οὐδεὶς γὰρ ὁ ἀναγκάσων τοῦτον παραβῆναι.

ια'. "Πρὸς τί ποτε ἄρα νῦν χρῶμαι τῇ ἐμαυτοῦ ψυχῇ;" παρ' ἔκαστα τοῦτο ἐπανερωτᾶν ἔαυτόν,

¹ vi. 34. cp. Sen. *Ἐρ.* 81.

² iv. 50; ix. 3. For a qualifying picture to this very pessimistic view see vi. 48.

BOOK V

when thou thinkest how sure and smooth in all its workings is the faculty of understanding and knowledge?

10. Things are in a sense so wrapped up in mystery that not a few philosophers, and they no ordinary ones, have concluded that they are wholly beyond our comprehension : nay, even the Stoics themselves find them hard to comprehend. Indeed every assent we give to the impressions of our senses is liable to error, for where is the man who never errs? Pass on then to the objective things themselves, how transitory they are, how worthless, the property, quite possibly, of a boy-minion, a harlot, or a brigand.¹ After that turn to the characters of thine associates, even the most refined of whom it is difficult to put up with, let alone the fact that a man has enough to do to endure himself.²

What then there can be amid such murk and nastiness, and in so ceaseless an ebbing of substance and of time, of movement and things moved, that deserves to be greatly valued or to excite our ambition in the least, I cannot even conceive. On the contrary, a man should take heart of grace to await his natural dissolution, and without any chafing at delay comfort³ himself with these twin thoughts alone : the one, that nothing will befall me that is not in accord with the Nature of the Universe ; the other, that it is in my power to do nothing contrary to the God and the 'genius'⁴ within me. For no one can force me to disobey that.

11. *To what use then am I putting my soul?* Never fail to ask thyself this question and to cross-examine

³ A favourite word. cp. iv. 31; v. 9 = "to take rest in."

⁴ ii. 13; iii. 5 etc.

MARCUS AURELIUS

καὶ ἐξετάζειν, τί μοί ἔστι νῦν ἐν τούτῳ τῷ μορίῳ,
ὅ δὴ ἡγεμονικὸν καλοῦσι; καὶ τίνος ἄρα νῦν ἔχω
ψυχήν; μῆτι παιδίου; μῆτι μειρακίου; μῆτι
γυναικαρίου; μῆτι τυράννου; μῆτι κτήνους;
μῆτι θηρίου;

ιβ'. Ὁποιά τινά ἔστι τὰ τοῖς πολλοῖς
δοκοῦντα ἀγαθά, κανέντε ἐντεῦθεν λάβοις. εἰ γάρ
τις ἐπινοήσειεν ὑπάρχοντά τινα ὡς ἀληθῶς
ἀγαθά, οἷον φρόνησιν, σωφροσύνην, δικαιοσύνην,
ἀνδρίαν, οὐκ ἀν ταῦτα προεπινοήσας ἔτι ἀκοῦσαι
δυνηθείη τὸ “ὑπὸ τῶν ἀγαθῶν.”¹ οὐ γὰρ ἐφαρ-
μόσει. τὰ δέ γε τοῖς πολλοῖς φαινόμενα ἀγαθὰ
προεπινοήσας τις, ἐξακούσεται καὶ ῥᾳδίως δέξεται,
ὡς οἰκείως ἐπιλεγόμενον τὸ ὑπὸ τοῦ κωμικοῦ
εἰρημένον. οὕτως καὶ οἱ πολλοὶ φαντάζονται τὴν
διαφοράν. οὐ γὰρ ἀν τοῦτο μὲν οὖν² προσ-
έκοπτε καὶ ἀπηξιοῦτο· τὸ δὲ ἐπὶ τοῦ πλούτου
καὶ τῶν πρὸς τρυφὴν ἢ δόξαν εὐκληρημάτων
παρεδεχόμεθα ὡς ἴκνουμένως καὶ ἀστείως εἰρη-
μένον. πρόιθι οὖν καὶ ἐρώτα, εἰ τιμητέον καὶ
ἀγαθὰ ὑποληπτέον τὰ τοιαῦτα, ὡν προεπινοη-
θέντων οἰκείως ἀν ἐπιφέροιτο τὸ τὸν κεκτημένον
αὐτὰ ὑπὸ τῆς εὐπορίας “οὐκ ἔχειν, ὅποι χέση.”

ιγ'. Ἐξ αἰτιώδους καὶ ὑλικοῦ συνέστηκα-
ούδετερον δὲ τούτων εἰς τὸ μὴ ὃν φθαρήσεται,

¹ τὶ ὑπὸ τῷ ἀγαθῷ: τὸ Morus: τῶν ἀγαθῶν Nauck.

² οὖν Loft for οὐ: Rendall keeps οὐ and translates
“would not fail to shock.”

¹ sc. as in the case of things really good.

² From Menander *Frag.* 530 (Kock). The substitution of πτύση for χέση would mitigate the coarseness of the phrase,

BOOK V

thyself thus : What relation have I to this part of me which they call the ruling Reason ? And whose Soul have I got now ? The Soul of a child ? Of a youth ? Of a woman ? Of a tyrant ? Of a domestic animal ? Of a wild beast ?

12. What are counted as good things in the estimation of the many thou canst gather even from this. For if a man fix his mind upon certain things as really and unquestionably good, such as wisdom, temperance, justice, manliness, with this preconception in his mind he could no longer bear to listen to the poet's, *By reason of his wealth of goods* ; for it would not apply. But, if a man first fix his mind upon the things which appear good to the multitude, he will listen and readily accept as aptly added the quotation from the Comic Poet. In this way even the multitude have a perception of the difference. For otherwise this jest would not¹ offend and be repudiated, while we accept it as appropriately and wittily said of wealth and of the advantages which wait upon luxury and popularity. Go on, then, and ask whether we should prize and count as good those things, with which first fixed in our mind we might germanely quote of their possessor, that *for his very wealth of goods he has no place to ease himself in.*²

13. I am made up of the Causal³ and the Material, and neither of these disappears into nothing, just

and we might then *cp.* Diog. Laert. *Diog.* 6 and *Arist.* 4, passages in which we are told that the philosopher being taken to a magnificent house where spitting was forbidden spat in his host's face, explaining that he could find no other place.

³ The Efficient, or Formal, or Formative principle, here the Soul, but the Soul itself consists of a causal element (*νοῦς*) and a material (*τὸ πνευμάτιον*).

MARCUS AURELIUS

ῶσπερ οὐδὲ ἐκ τοῦ μὴ ὅντος ὑπέστη. οὐκοῦν καταταχθήσεται πᾶν μέρος ἐμὸν κατὰ μεταβολὴν εἰς μέρος τι τοῦ κόσμου, καὶ πάλιν ἐκεῖνο εἰς ἔτερον μέρος τι τοῦ κόσμου μεταβαλεῖ, καὶ ἡδη εἰς ἄπειρον. κατὰ τοιαύτην δὲ μεταβολὴν κάγω ὑπέστην καὶ οἱ ἐμὲ γεννήσαντες, καὶ ἐπανιόντι εἰς ἄλλο ἄπειρον. οὐδὲν γὰρ κωλύει οὕτως φάναι, καὶ κατὰ περιόδους πεπερασμένας ὁ κόσμος διοικῆται.

ιδ'. 'Ο λόγος καὶ ἡ λογικὴ τέχνη δυνάμεις εἰσὶν ἑαυταῖς ἀρκούμεναι καὶ τοῖς καθ' ἑαυτὰς ἔργοις. ὄρμῶνται μὲν οὖν ἀπὸ τῆς οἰκείας ἀρχῆς, ὁδεύοντει δὲ εἰς τὸ προκείμενον τέλος· καθ' ὃ κατορθώσεις αἱ τοιαῦται πράξεις ὀνομάζονται τὴν ὁρθότητα τῆς ὁδοῦ σημαίνουσαι.

ιε'. Οὐδὲν τούτων ῥητέον ἀνθρώπου, ἀ ἀνθρώπῳ, καθὸ ἀνθρωπός ἐστιν, οὐκ ἐπιβάλλει. οὐκ ἔστιν ἀπαιτήματα ἀνθρώπου, οὐδὲ ἐπαγγέλλεται αὐτὰ ἡ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου φύσις, οὐδὲ τελειότητές εἰσι τῆς τοῦ ἀνθρώπου φύσεως. οὐ τοίνυν οὐδὲ τὸ τέλος ἐν αὐτοῖς ἐστι τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ κείμενον, οὐδέ γε τὸ συμπληρωτικὸν τοῦ τέλους, τὸ ἀγαθόν. ἔτι εἴ τι τούτων ἦν ἐπιβάλλον τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ, οὐκ ἀν τὸ ὑπερφρονεῦν αὐτῶν καὶ κατεξανίστασθαι ἐπιβάλλον ἦν, οὐδὲ ἐπαινετὸς ἦν ὃ ἀπροσδεῆ τούτων ἑαυτὸν παρεχόμενος· οὐδ' ἀν ὃ ἐλαττωτικὸς ἑαυτοῦ ἐν τινι τούτων ἀγαθὸς ἦν, εἴπερ ταῦτα ἀγαθὰ ἦν. νῦν δέ, δσωπερ πλείω τις ἀφαιρῶν ἑαυτοῦ τούτων ἡ τοιούτων ἐτέρων ἡ καὶ ἀφαιρούμενός τι τούτων ἀνέχηται, τοσῳδε μᾶλλον ἀγαθός ἐστιν.

ιε'. Οἰα ἀν πολλάκις φαντασθῆς, τοιαύτη σοι

BOOK V

as neither did it come into existence out of nothing. So shall my every part by change be told off¹ to form some part of the Universe, and that again be changed into another part of it, and so on to infinity. It was by such process of change that I too came into being and my parents, and so backwards into a second infinity. And the statement is quite legitimate, even if the Universe be arranged according to completed cycles.²

14. Reason and the art of reasoning are in themselves and in their own proper acts self-sufficing faculties. Starting from a principle peculiar to them, they journey on to the end set before them. Wherefore such actions are termed *right acts*, as signifying that they follow the right way.

15. Call none of those things a man's that do not fall to him as man. They cannot be claimed of a man ; the man's nature does not guarantee them ; they are no consummations of that nature. Consequently neither is the end for which man lives placed in these things, nor yet that which is perfective of the end, namely The Good. Moreover, if any of these things did fall to a man, it would not fall to him to condemn them and set his face against them, nor would a man be commendable who shewed himself independent of these things, nor yet would he be a good man who came short of his own standard in any of them, if so be these things were good. But as it is, the more a man can cut himself free, or even be set free, from these and other such things with equanimity, by so much the more is he good.

16. The character of thy mind will be such as is

¹ viii. 25. ² v. 32 ; xi. 1. See Index III. (*περιοδοι*).

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἔσται ἡ διάνοια· βάπτεται γὰρ ὑπὸ τῶν φαντασιῶν ἡ ψυχή. βάπτε οὖν αὐτὴν τῇ συνεχείᾳ τῶν τοιούτων φαντασιῶν οἷον ὅτι, ὅπου ζῆν ἔστιν, ἐκεῖ καὶ εὐ ζῆν· ἐν αὐλῇ δὲ ζῆν ἔστιν· ἔστιν ἄρα καὶ εὐ ζῆν ἐν αὐλῇ. καὶ πάλιν ὅτι οὐπέρ ἔνεκεν ἔκαστον κατεσκεύασται, [πρὸς ὃ δὲ κατεσκεύασται,^{1]}] πρὸς τοῦτο φέρεται· πρὸς ὃ φέρεται δέ, ἐν τούτῳ τὸ τέλος αὐτοῦ· ὅπου δὲ τὸ τέλος, ἐκεῖ καὶ τὸ συμφέρον καὶ τάγαθὸν ἔκάστου· τὸ ἄρα ἀγαθὸν τοῦ λογικοῦ ζώου κοινωνία. ὅτι γὰρ πρὸς κοινωνίαν γεγόναμεν, πάλαι δέδεικται. ἡ οὐκ ἡν ἐναργὲς ὅτι τὰ χείρω τῶν κρειττόνων ἔνεκεν, τὰ δὲ κρείττω ἄλληλων; κρείττω δὲ τῶν μὲν ἀψύχων τὰ ἔμψυχα, τῶν δὲ ἔμψυχων τὰ λογικά.

ιζ'. Τὸ τὰ ἀδύνατα διώκειν μανικόν· ἀδύνατον δὲ τὸ τοὺς φαύλους μὴ τοιαῦτά τινα ποιεῦν.

ιη'. Οὐδὲν οὐδενὶ συμβαίνει, ὃ οὐχὶ πέφυκε φέρειν. ἄλλω τὰ αὐτὰ συμβαίνει καὶ ἡτοι ἀγνοῶν, ὅτι συμβέβηκεν, ἡ ἐπιδεικνύμενος μεγαλοφροσύνην εὐσταθεῖ καὶ ἀκάκωτος μένει. δεινὸν οὖν ἄγνοιαν καὶ ἀρέσκειαν ἵσχυροτέρας εἶναι φρουρήσεως.

ιθ'. Τὰ πράγματα αὐτὰ οὐδὲ ὄπωστιοῦν ψυχῆς ἄπτεται, οὐδὲ ἔχει εἰσοδον πρὸς ψυχήν, οὐδὲ τρέψαι οὐδὲ κινήσαι ψυχὴν δύναται· τρέπει

¹ The words in brackets omitted by A, which however adds δὲ after τοῦτο. After the first κατεσκ. Gat. inserts πρὸς τοῦτο κατεσκεύασται.

¹ vii. 3; Sen. Ep. 95. ² viii. 9. cp. Sen. Ep. 28.

³ ii. 1; iii. 4, § 1. ⁴ ii. 1.

⁵ vii. 55; xi. 18, § 1; Sen. Ep. 65 ad fin.

BOOK V

the character of thy frequent thoughts,¹ for the soul takes its dye from the thoughts. Dye her then with a continuous succession of such thoughts as these : Where life is possible, there it is possible also to live well.—*But the life is life in a Court.*² Well, in a Court too it is possible to live well. And again : A thing is drawn towards that for the sake of which it has been made, and its end lies in that towards which it is drawn and, where its end lies, there lie also its interest and its good. The Good, then, for a rational creature is fellowship with others.³ For it has been made clear long ago⁴ that we were constituted for fellowship. Or was it not obvious that the lower were for the sake of the higher⁵ and the higher for the sake of one another? And living things are higher than lifeless,⁶ and those that have reason than those that have life only.

17. To crave impossibilities is lunacy ; but it is impossible for the wicked to act otherwise.⁷

18. Nothing befalls anyone that he is not fitted by nature to bear.⁸ Others experience the same things as thou, but either from ignorance that anything has befallen them, or to manifest their greatness of mind, they stand firm and get no hurt. A strange thing indeed that ignorance and vanity should prove stronger than wisdom!⁹

19. Things of themselves cannot take the least hold of the Soul, nor have any access to her, nor deflect or move her ; but the Soul alone deflects

⁶ cp. Chrysippus : τὸς ζῷον τοῦ μὴ ζῷου κρείττον.

⁷ iv. 6 ; vii. 71 ; xi. 18 *ad fin.* ; Sen. *de Ira* ii. 31.

⁸ viii. 46 ; x. 3 ; St. Paul, 1 Cor. x. 13.

⁹ cp. Sen. *Ep.* 36 *ad fin.* : turpissimum si eam securitatem nobis ratio non praestat, ad quam stultitia perducit.

MARCUS AURELIUS

δὲ καὶ κινεῖ αὐτὴν ἑαυτὴν μόνη, καὶ οἶων ἀνκριμάτων καταξιώσῃ ἑαυτήν, τοιαῦτα ἑαυτῇ ποιεῖ τὰ προσυφεστῶτα.

κ'. Καθ' ἔτερον μὲν λόγον ἡμῖν ἐστιν οἰκειότατον ἄνθρωπος, καθ' ὅσον εὖ ποιητέον αὐτοὺς¹ καὶ ἀνεκτέον· καθ' ὅσον δὲ ἐνίστανται τινες εἰς τὰ οἰκεῖα ἔργα, ἐν τι τῶν ἀδιαφόρων μοι γίνεται ὁ ἄνθρωπος οὐχ ἡσσον ἢ ἥλιος ἢ ἄνεμος ἢ θηρίον. ὑπὸ τούτων δὲ ἐνέργεια μέν τις ἐμποδισθείη ἄν· ὄρμῆς δὲ καὶ διαθέσεως οὐ γίνεται ἐμπόδια διὰ τὴν ὑπεξαίρεσιν καὶ τὴν περιτροπήν. περιτρέπει γὰρ καὶ μεθίστησι πᾶν τὸ τῆς ἐνεργείας κώλυμα ἢ διάνοια εἰς τὸ πρηγούμενον· καὶ πρὸ ἔργου γίνεται τὸ τοῦ ἔργου τούτου ἐφεκτικόν· καὶ πρὸ ὁδοῦ τὸ τῆς ὁδοῦ ταύτης ἐνστατικόν.

κα'. Τῶν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ κράτιστον τίμα· ἐστι δὲ τοῦτο τὸ πᾶσι χρώμενον καὶ πάντα διέπον. ὄμοίως δὲ καὶ τῶν ἐν σοὶ τὸ κράτιστον τίμα· ἐστι δὲ τοῦτο τὸ ἐκείνῳ ὄμογενές. καὶ γὰρ ἐπὶ σοῦ τὸ τοῦς ἄλλοις χρώμενον τοῦτό ἐστι, καὶ ὁ σὸς βίος ὑπὸ τούτου διοικεῖται.

κβ'. "Ο τῇ πόλει οὐκ ἐστι βλαβερόν, οὐδὲ τὸν πολίτην βλάπτει. ἐπὶ πάσης τῆς τοῦ βεβλάφθαι φαντασίας τούτου ἐπαγε τὸν κανόνα· εἰ ἡ πόλις ὑπὸ τούτου μὴ βλάπτεται, οὐδὲ ἐγὼ βέβλαμμαι· εἰ δὲ ἡ πόλις βλάπτεται, οὐκ ὄργιστέον τῷ βλάπτοντι τὴν πόλιν. τί τὸ παρορώμενον;²

¹ More correctly αὐτόν. ² sc. ἀλλὰ δεικτέον before τι Gat.

¹ vi. 8.

² xi. 16.

³ iv. 1; vi. 50.

BOOK V

and moves herself,¹ and whatever judgments she deems it right to form, in conformity with them she fashions for herself the things that submit themselves to her from without.²

20. In one respect a man is of very close concern to us, in so far as we must do him good and forbear; but in so far as any stand in the way of those acts which concern us closely, then man becomes for me as much one of things indifferent as the sun, as the wind, as a wild-beast. Though a man may in some sort fetter my activity, yet on my own initiative and mental attitude no fetters can be put because of the power they possess of conditional action³ and of adaptation to circumstances. For everything that stands in the way of its activity is adapted and transmuted by the mind into a furtherance of it,⁴ and that which is a check on this action is converted into a help to it, and that which is a hindrance in our path goes but to make it easier.

21. Prize the most excellent thing in the Universe; and this is that which utilizes all things and controls all things. Prize in like manner the most excellent thing in thyself;⁵ and this is that which is akin to the other. For this, which utilizes all else is in thee too, and by it thy life is governed.

22. That which is not hurtful to the community cannot hurt the individual.⁶ Test every case of apparent hurt by this rule: if the community be not hurt by this, neither am I hurt; but if the community be hurt, there is no need to be angry with him that hath done the hurt,⁷ but to enquire, What hath he seen amiss?⁸

¹ iv. 1; x. 31 *ad fin.*

⁶ v. 35; vi. 54.

⁵ vi. 16 *ad fin.*

⁷ v. 35.

⁸ xi. 13.

MARCUS AURELIUS

κγ'. Πολλάκις ἐνθυμοῦ τὸ τάχος τῆς παραφορᾶς καὶ ὑπεξαγωγῆς τῶν δυτῶν καὶ γινομένων. ἡ τε γὰρ οὐσία οἶον ποταμὸς ἐν διηνεκεῖ ῥύσει· καὶ αἱ ἐνέργειαι ἐν συνεχέσι μεταβολαῖς, καὶ τὰ αἴτια ἐν μυρίαις τροπαῖς, καὶ σχεδὸν οὐδὲν ἔστως, καὶ τὸ πάρεγγυς τόδε ἅπειρον τοῦ¹ παρωχηκότος† καὶ μέλλοντος ἀχανές, φ πάντα ἐναφανίζεται. πῶς οὖν οὐ μωρὸς ὁ ἐν τούτοις φυσώμενος ἢ σπώμενος ἢ σχετλιάζων† ως ἐν τινι χρόνῳ καὶ ἐπὶ μακρὸν <ἄν> ἐνοχλήσαντι; †²

κδ'. Μέμνησο τῆς συμπάστης οὐσίας, ἡς ὀλίγιστον μετέχεις· καὶ τοῦ σύμπαντος αἰῶνος, οὐ βραχὺ καὶ ἀκαριαῖον σοι διάστημα ἀφώρισται· καὶ τῆς είμαρμένης, ἡς πόστον εἰ μέρος;

κε'. "Ἄλλος ἀμαρτάνει τι εἰς ἐμέ; ὅψεται· ἰδίαν ἔχει διάθεσιν, ἰδίαν ἐνέργειαν. ἐγὼ νῦν ἔχω, ὃ με θέλει νῦν ἔχειν ἡ κοινὴ φύσις, καὶ πράσσω, ὃ με νῦν πράσσειν θέλει ἡ ἐμὴ φύσις.

κς'. Τὸ ἡγεμονικὸν καὶ κυριεύον τῆς ψυχῆς σου μέρος ἀτρεπτον ἔστω ὑπὸ τῆς ἐν τῇ σαρκὶ λείας ἢ τραχείας κινήσεως· καὶ μὴ συγκρινέσθω, ἀλλὰ περιγραφέτω ἑαυτὸ καὶ περιορίζέτω τὰς πείσεις ἐκείνας ἐν τοῖς μορίοις. ὅταν δὲ ἀναδιδῶνται κατὰ τὴν ἑτέραν †³ συμπάθειαν εἰς τὴν διάνοιαν, ως ἐν σώματι ἡνωμένῳ, τότε πρὸς μὲν τὴν αἰσθησιν φυσικὴν οὖσαν οὐ πειρατέον ἀντιβαίνειν, τὴν δὲ ὑπόληψιν τὴν ως περὶ ἀγαθοῦ ἢ κακοῦ μὴ προστιθέτω τὸ ἡγεμονικὸν ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ.

¹ τοῦ τε PA.

² μικρὸν P: ἐνοχλήσοντι Lofft: ἐνοχλῆσάν τι Fournier.
The future sense seems required.

³ ἑτέρων <ἑτέροις> Schenkl: μερῶν Rend. (cp. Sext. Emp. *adv. Math.* ix. 80): ἡμετέραν Rich.

BOOK V

23. Think often on the swiftness with which the things that exist and that are coming into existence are swept past us and carried out of sight. For all substance¹ is as a river in ceaseless flow,² its activities ever changing and its causes subject to countless variations, and scarcely anything stable; and ever beside us is this infinity of the past and yawning abyss of the future, wherein all things are disappearing.³ Is he not senseless who in such an environment puffs himself up, or is distracted, or frets as over a trouble lasting and far-reaching?

24. Keep in memory the universal Substance, of which thou art a tiny part; and universal Time, of which a brief, nay an almost momentary span has been allotted thee; and Destiny, in which how fractional thy share?⁴

25. Another does me some wrong? He shall see to it.⁵ His disposition is his own, his activities are his own. What the universal Nature wills me to have now, that I now have, and what my nature wills me now to do, that I do.

26. Let the ruling and master Reason of thy soul be proof against any motions in the flesh smooth or rough. Let it not mingle itself with them, but isolate and restrict those tendencies to their true spheres. But when in virtue of that other sympathetic connection these tendencies grow up into the mind as is to be expected in a single organism, then must thou not go about to resist the sensation, natural as it is, but see that thy ruling Reason adds no opinion of its own as to whether such is good or bad.

¹ Or, *Being*. ² iv. 43; vii. 19. ³ xii. 32.

⁴ Epict. i. 12, 26. ⁵ St. Matt. xii. 4, 24.

MARCUS AURELIUS

κεῖ'. Συζῆν θεοῖς. συζῆ δὲ θεοῖς ὁ συνεχῶς δεικνὺς αὐτοῖς τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν ἀρεσκομένην μὲν τοῖς ἀπονεμομένοις, ποιοῦσαν δέ, ὅσα βούλεται ὁ δαίμων, δν ἐκάστῳ προστάτην καὶ ἡγεμόνα ὁ Ζεὺς ἔδωκεν, ἀπόσπασμα ἑαυτοῦ. οὗτος δέ ἐστιν ὁ ἐκάστου νοῦς καὶ λόγος.

κη'. Τῷ γράσων μήτι ὄργιζῃ; μήτι τῷ ὄξοτόμῳ ὄργιζῃ; τί σοι ποιήσει; τοιοῦτον στόμα ἔχει, τοιαύτας μάλας ἔχει· ἀνάγκη τοιαύτην ἀποφορὰν ἀπὸ τοιούτων γίνεσθαι. "Αλλ' ὁ ἄνθρωπος λόγον ἔχει, φησί,¹ καὶ δύναται συννοεῖν ἐφιστάνων, τί πλημμελεῖ." εὖ σοι γένοιτο· τοιγαροῦν καὶ σὺ λόγον ἔχεις· κίνησον λογικῆ διαθέσει λογικὴν διάθεσιν, δεῖξον, ὑπόμνησον. εἰ γὰρ ἐπαίει, θεραπεύσεις καὶ οὐ χρεία ὄργης.

Οὕτε τραγῳδὸς οὕτε πόρνη.
κθ'. 'Ως ἔξελθὼν ζῆν διανοῇ, οὕτως ἐνταῦθα ζῆν ἔξεστιν. ἐὰν δὲ μὴ ἐπιτρέπωσι, τότε καὶ τοῦ ζῆν ἔξιθι· οὕτως μέντοι, ως μηδὲν κακὸν πάσχων. "Καπνός, καὶ ἀπέρχομαι." τί αὐτὸ πρᾶγμα δοκεῖς; μέχρι δέ με τοιοῦτον οὐδὲν ἔξάγει, μένω ἐλεύθερος, καὶ οὐδείς με κωλύσει ποιεῖν ἢ θέλω· θέλω δὲ² κατὰ φύσιν τοῦ λογικοῦ καὶ κοινωνικοῦ ζώου.

λ'. 'Ο τοῦ ὅλου νοῦς κοινωνικός. πεποίηκε γοῦν τὰ χείρω τῶν κρειττόνων ἔνεκεν· καὶ τὰ κρείττω ἀλλήλοις συνηρμοσεν. ὄρᾶς, πῶς ὑπέταξε, συνέταξε, καὶ τὸ κατ' ἀξίαν ἀπένειμεν ἐκάστοις

¹ φύσει AD. ² <τὰ>.

¹ ii. 1, 4; xii. 26, 30.

² Epict. i. 14, § 12 ἐπίτροπον ἐκάστῳ παρέστησε (sc. Zeus) τὸν ἐκάστου δαίμονα καὶ παρέδωκε φυλάσσειν αὐτὸν αὐτῷ.

BOOK V

27. Walk with the Gods! And he does walk with the Gods, who lets them see his soul invariably satisfied with its lot and carrying out the will of that 'genius,' a particle¹ of himself, which Zeus has given to every man as his captain and guide²—and this is none other than each man's intelligence and reason.

28. If a man's armpits are unpleasant, art thou angry with him? If he has foul breath? What would be the use? The man has such a mouth, he has such armpits. Some such effluvium was bound to come from such a source. *But the man has sense, quotha!* *With a little attention he could see wherein he offends.* I congratulate thee! Well, thou too hast sense. By a rational attitude, then, in thyself evoke a rational attitude in him,³ enlighten him, admonish him. If he listen, thou shalt cure him,⁴ and have no need of anger.

Neither tragedian nor harlot.

29. Thou canst live on earth as thou dost purpose to live when departed. But if men will not have it so, then is it time for thee even to go out of life,⁵ yet not as one who is treated ill. '*Tis smoky and I go away.*⁶ Why think it a great matter? But while no such cause drives me forth, I remain a free man, and none shall prevent me from doing what I will, and I will what is in accordance with the nature of a rational and social creature.

30. The intelligence of the Universe is social. It hath at any rate made the lower things for the sake of the higher, and it adapted the higher⁷ to one another. Thou seest how it hath subordinated, coordinated, and given each its due lot

³ x. 4; Epict. ii. 8, § 11.

⁴ cp. St. Matt. xviii. 15.

⁵ See on iii. 1. cp. viii. 47.

⁶ Epict. i. 25, § 18; iv. 10, § 27.

⁷ v. 16.

MARCUS AURELIUS

καὶ τὰ κρατιστεύοντα εἰς ὁμόνοιαν ἀλλήλων συνήγαγεν.

λα'. Πῶς προσενήνεξαι μέχρι νῦν θεοῖς, γονεῦσιν, ἀδελφοῖς, γυναικί, τέκνοις, διδασκάλοις, τροφεῦσι, φίλοις, οἰκείοις, οἰκέταις; εἰ πρὸς πάντας σοι μέχρι νῦν ἔστι τὸ

“Μήτε τινὰ ῥέξαι ἔξαίσιον, μήτε <τι> εἰπεῖν.”¹ ἀναμιμήσκου δὲ καὶ δι' οἶων διελήλυθας καὶ οἴλα ἥρκεσας ὑπομεῖναι. καὶ ὅτι πλήρης ἡδη σοι ἡ ἱστορία τοῦ βίου καὶ τελευτᾶ² ἡ λειτουργία· καὶ πόσα ὥπται καλά, καὶ πόσων μὲν ἡδονῶν καὶ πόνων ὑπερεῖδες, πόσα δὲ ἔνδοξα παρεῖδες, εἰς ὅσους δὲ ἀγνώμονας εὐγνώμων ἐγένουν.

λβ'. Διὰ τί συγχέουσιν ἄτεχνοι καὶ ἀμαθεῖς ψυχαὶ ἔντεχνον καὶ ἐπιστήμονα; τίς οὖν ψυχὴ ἔντεχνος καὶ ἐπιστήμων; ἡ εἰδυῖα ἀρχὴν καὶ τέλος, καὶ τὸν δι' ὅλης τῆς οὐσίας διήκοντα λόγον καὶ διὰ παντὸς τοῦ αἰώνος κατὰ περιόδους τεταγμένας οἰκονομοῦντα τὸ πᾶν.

λγ'. “Οσον οὐδέπω σποδὸς ἡ σκελετός, καὶ ἡτοι ὄνομα ἡ οὐδὲ ὄνομα· τὸ δὲ ὄνομα ψόφος καὶ ἀπήχημα. τὰ δὲ ἐν τῷ βίῳ πολυτίμητα κενὰ καὶ σαπρὰ καὶ μικρὰ καὶ κυνίδια διαδακνόμενα καὶ παιδία φιλόνεικα, γελῶντα, εἴτα εὐθὺς κλαίοντα. πίστις δὲ καὶ αἰδὼς καὶ δίκη καὶ ἀλήθεια

“Πρὸς Ὀλυμπον ἀπὸ χθονὸς εὐρυοδείης.”

¹ Marcus quotes this line in a form that does not scan. *cp. vii. 39 if the text is correct.*

² τελευταῖς AD: τελεα P: τελευτῇ Schenkl.

¹ Hom. *Od.* iv. 690.

² x. 36. There is no Pharisaism here, as some have most unwarrantably asserted. ³ *cp. St. Paul, 1 Cor. i. 27 (Auth. Vers.).*

BOOK V

and brought the more excellent things into mutual accord.

31. How hast thou borne thyself heretofore towards Gods, parents, brothers, wife, children, teachers, tutors, friends, relations, household? Canst thou say truly of them all to this day,

*Doing to no man wrong, nor speaking aught that is evil?*¹
And call to mind all that thou hast passed through, all thou hast found strength to bear; that the story of thy life is now full-told and thy service is ending; and how many beautiful sights thou hast seen, how many pleasures and pains thou hast disregarded, forgone what ambitions, and repaid with kindness how much unkindness.²

32. Why do unskilled and ignorant souls confound him who has skill and has knowledge? What soul, then, has skill and knowledge? Even that which knoweth beginning and end, and the reason that informs all Substance, and governs the Whole from ordered cycle to cycle⁴ through all eternity.

33. But a little while and thou shalt be burnt ashes or a few dry bones, and possibly a name, possibly not a name even.⁵ And a name is but sound and a far off echo. And all that we prize so highly in our lives is empty and rotten and paltry, and we but as puppies snapping at each other, as quarrelsome children now laughing and anon in tears. But faith and modesty and justice and truth

*Up from the wide-wayed Earth have winged their flight to Olympus.*⁶

⁴ v. 13; x. 7.

⁵ viii. 25; xii. 27.

⁶ Hesiod, *Op.* 197. *cp.* Eur. *Med.* 439 and Lucian, *Nigr.* 16, who, speaking of Rome, says much the same of αἰδὼς and ἀρετὴ and δικαιοσύνη. See also Dio 71, 24, § 2.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τί οὖν ἔτι τὸ ἐνταῦθα κατέχον; εἴγε τὰ μὲν αἰσθητὰ εὐμετάβλητα καὶ οὐχ ἔστωτα· τὰ δὲ αἰσθητήρια ἀμυδρὰ καὶ εὐπαρατύπωτα· αὐτὸ δὲ τὸ ψυχάριον ἀναθυμίασις ἀφ' αἵματος· τὸ δὲ εὐδοκιμεῖν παρὰ τοιούτοις κενόν. τί οὖν; περιμενεῖς.¹ Ήλεως τὴν εἴτε σβέσιν εἴτε μετάστασιν. ἔως δὲ ἐκείνης ὁ καιρὸς ἐφίσταται, τί ἀρκεῖ; τί δ' ἄλλο ἡ θεοὺς μὲν σέβειν καὶ εὐφημεῖν, ἀνθρώπους δὲ εὖ ποιεῖν, καὶ “ἀνέχεσθαι” αὐτῶν καὶ “ἀπέχεσθαι.” ὅσα δὲ ἐντὸς ὅρων τοῦ κρεαδίου καὶ τοῦ πνευματίου, ταῦτα μεμυῆσθαι μήτε σὰ δυτα μήτε ἐπὶ σοί.

λδ'. Δύνασαι ἀεὶ εὔροεῖν, εἴγε καὶ εὐοδεῖν,² εἴγε καὶ ὁδῷ ὑπολαμβάνειν καὶ πράσσειν. δύο ταῦτα κοινὰ τῇ τε τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ τῇ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου καὶ παντὸς λογικοῦ ζῴου ψυχῆς· τὸ μὴ ἐμποδίζεσθαι ὑπ' ἄλλου· καὶ τὸ ἐν τῇ δικαικῇ διαθέσει καὶ πράξει ἔχειν τὸ ἀγαθόν, καὶ ἐνταῦθα τὴν ὅρεξιν ἀπολήγειν.

λε'. Εἰ μήτε κακία ἔστι τοῦτο ἐμὴ μήτε ἐνέργεια κατὰ κακίαν ἐμὴν μήτε τὸ κοινὸν βλάπτεται, τί ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ διαφέρομαι; τίς δὲ βλάβη τοῦ κοινοῦ;

λς'. Μὴ ὄλοσχερῶς τῇ φαντασίᾳ συναρπάζεσθαι· ἀλλὰ βοηθεῖν μὲν κατὰ δύναμιν καὶ κατ' ἀξίαν· κανεὶς τὰ μέσα ἐλαττώνται,³ μὴ μέντοι βλάβην αὐτὸ φαντάζεσθαι, κακὸν γάρ ἔθος. ἀλλ' ὡς ὁ γέρων ἀπελθὼν τὸν τοῦ θρεπτοῦ

¹ περιμένεις PA : περιμενεῖς Wilam.

² Loftt and Stich. for εῦδειν A, δδεύειν P.

³ ἐλαττώνται has no subject : ἐλαττοῖ τι Cor.

¹ vi. 15. cp. Tzetz. Chil. vii. 803; viii. 223.

BOOK V

What then keeps thee here?—if indeed sensible objects are ever changing and unstable, and our faculties are so feeble and so easily misled; and the poor soul itself is an exhalation from blood¹; and to be well-thought of in such a world mere vanity. What then remains? To wait with a good grace for the end, whether it be extinction or translation.² But till our time for that be come, what sufficeth? What but to reverence the Gods and to praise them, to do good unto men and to *bear with them and forbear*,³ but, for all else that comes within the compass of this poor flesh and breath, to remember that it is not thine nor under thy control?

34. Thou hast it in thy power that the current of thy life be ever fair, if also 'tis thine to make fair way, if also in ordered way to think and act. The Soul of God and the souls of men and of every rational creature have these two characteristics in common: to suffer no let or hindrance from another, and to find their good in a condition and practice of justice, and to confine their propensity to this.

35. If this be no vice of mine nor the outcome of any vice of mine, and if the common interest does not suffer, why concern myself about it? And how can the common interest suffer?⁴

36. Be not carried incontinently away by sense-impressions, but rally to the fight as thou canst and as is due. If there be failure⁵ in things indifferent, think not there is any great harm done; for that is an evil habit. But as the greybeard (in the play)

¹ Marcus never seems to have made up his mind which it was to be. See iv. 21; viii. 25; xi. 3.

² These two constituted for Epictetus the whole "Law and the Prophets"; see Aulus Gellius xvii. 19.

⁴ v. 22; vi. 54.

⁵ v. 36.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ρόμβον ἀπήτει μεμνημένος, ὅτι ρόμβος, οὗτως οὖν καὶ ὡδε· τὸ ἐπέί τοι γίνη καλῶν¹ ἐπὶ τῶν ἐμβόλων, τὸν ἄνθρωπε, ἐπελάθου, τί ταῦτα ἦν; “Ναι· ἀλλὰ τούτοις περισπούδαστα.” διὰ τοῦτ’ οὖν καὶ σὺ μωρὸς γένη;

2 Ἐγενόμην ποτέ, ὅπουδήποτε καταλειφθείς, εὔμοιρος ἄνθρωπος· τὸ δὲ “εὔμοιρος,” ἀγαθὴν μοῖραν σεαυτῷ ἀπονείμας· ἀγαθαὶ δὲ μοῖραι ἀγαθαὶ τροπαὶ ψυχῆς, ἀγαθαὶ ὄρμαί, ἀγαθαὶ πράξεις.

¹ ἐπεὶ τί γίνεται καλὸν Xyl.: ἐγκαλῶν Cor. ἐπειτα τί might be read.

BOOK V

taking his leave reclaimed his foster-child's top, not forgetting that it was but a top, so do thou here also.¹ Since indeed thou art found haranguing on the hustings, O Man, hast thou forgotten what this really means? *Aye, but people will have it.* Must thou too be a fool in consequence?

Time was that wheresoever forsaken² I was a man well-portioned; but that *man well-portioned* is he that hath given himself a good portion; and good portions are good phases of the soul, good impulses, good actions.

¹ It is not known what Marcus alludes to. The following words are unintelligible.

² Or overtaken (*καταληφθεῖς*).

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ Σ'

α'. Ἡ τῶν ὅλων οὐσία εὐπειθής καὶ εὐτρεπής· ὁ δὲ ταύτην διοικῶν λόγος οὐδεμίαν ἐν ἑαυτῷ αἰτίαν ἔχει τοῦ κακοποιεῖν· κακίαν γὰρ οὐκ ἔχει οὐδέ τι κακῶς ποιεῖ οὐδὲ βλαπτεῖ τι ὑπ' ἐκείνου. πάντα δὲ κατ' ἐκείνου γίνεται καὶ περαίνεται.

β'. Μὴ διαφέρου, πότερον ρίγων ἢ θαλπόμενος τὸ πρέπον ποιεῖς, καὶ πότερον νυστάζων ἢ ἴκανῶς ὑπνου ἔχων, καὶ πότερον κακῶς ἀκούων ἢ εὐφημούμενος, καὶ πότερον ἀποθυήσκων ἢ πράττων τι ἀλλοίον. μία γὰρ τῶν βιωτικῶν πράξεων καὶ αὕτη ἔστι, καθ' ἣν ἀποθυήσκομεν ἀρκεῖ οὖν καὶ ἐπὶ ταύτης 'τὸ παρὸν εὐθέσθαι.'

γ'. Ἐσω βλέπε· μηδενὸς πράγματος μήτε ἡ ἴδια ποιότης μήτε ἡ ἀξία παρατρεχέτω σε.

δ'. Πάντα τὰ ὑποκείμενα τάχιστα μεταβαλεῖ, καὶ ἡτοι ἐκθυμιαθήσεται, εἴπερ ἦνωται ἡ οὐσία, ἡ σκεδασθήσεται.

ε'. Ὁ διοικῶν λόγος οἶδε, πῶς διακείμενος, καὶ τί ποιεῖ καὶ ἐπὶ τίνος ὕλης.

¹ Not so all Stoics; cp. Sen. *de Prov.* 5: *non potest artifex mutare materiem.*

² vi. 22.

BOOK VI

1. THE Universal Substance is docile¹ and ductile; and the Reason that controls it has no motive in itself to do wrong. For it hath no wrongness and doeth no wrong, nor is anything harmed by it. But all things come into being and fulfil their purpose as it directs.

2. Make no difference in doing thy duty² whether thou art shivering or warm, drowsy³ or sleep-satisfied, defamed or extolled, dying or anything else. For the act of dying too is one of the acts of life.⁴ So it is enough in this also to *get the work in hand done well*.⁵

3. Look within. Let not the special quality⁶ or worth of anything escape thee.

4. All objective things will anon be changed and either etherialized into the Universal Substance, if that indeed be one, or dispersed abroad.⁷

5. The controlling Reason knows its own bent and its work and the medium it works in.

¹ Galen (xiv. 3, Kühn) says of Marcus that, owing to the theriac which he prescribed him, συνέβαινεν αὐτῷ νυστάζειν καρωδῶς ἐν ταῖς δσημέραις πρόξεσιν.

² cp. Sen. *Ep.* 77 *ad fin.* : *Unum ex vitae officiis, mori.*

³ A saying of the “Wise Men.” See Suidas. cp. Luc. *Necy.* 21. It was a trait of Marcus, Dio 71. 26, § 4.

⁴ = that which makes a thing what it is.

⁵ viii. 25 *ad fin.* ; x. 7, § 2.

MARCUS AURELIUS

σ'. Ἀριστος τρόπος τοῦ ἀμύνεσθαι τὸ μὴ
ἔξομοιοῦσθαι.

ζ'. Ἐνὶ τέρπου καὶ προσαναπαύου, τῷ ἀπὸ
πράξεως κοινωνικῆς μεταβαίνειν ἐπὶ πρᾶξιν
κοινωνικὴν σὺν μνήμῃ θεοῦ.

η'. Τὸ ἡγεμονικόν ἔστι τὸ ἑαυτὸ ἐγεῖρον καὶ
τρέπον καὶ ποιοῦν μὲν ἑαυτό, οἷον ἀν καὶ θέλη,
ποιοῦν δὲ ἑαυτῷ φαίνεσθαι πᾶν τὸ συμβαῖνον,
οἷον αὐτὸ θέλει.

θ'. Κατὰ τὴν τῶν δλων φύσιν ἔκαστα περαίν-
εται, οὐ γὰρ κατ' ἄλλην γέ τινα φύσιν ἥτοι
ἔξωθεν περιέχουσαν ἢ ἐμπεριεχομένην ἐνδον ἢ
ἔξω ἀπηρτημένην.

ι'. Ἡτοι κυκεὼν καὶ ἀντεμπλοκὴ καὶ σκεδ-
ασμός· ἡ ἔνωσις καὶ τάξις καὶ πρόνοια. εἰ μὲν
οὖν τὰ πρότερα, τί καὶ ἐπιθυμῶ εἰκαίω συγ-
κρίματι καὶ φυρμῷ τοιούτῳ ἐνδιατρίβειν; τί δέ
μοι καὶ μέλει ἄλλου τινὸς ἢ τοῦ ὅπως ποτὲ “ αἰα
γίνεσθαι”; τί δὲ καὶ ταράσσομαι; ηξει γὰρ ἐπ'
ἐμὲ ὁ σκεδασμός, ὃ τι ἀν ποιῶ. εἰ δὲ θάτερά
ἔστι, σέβω καὶ εὐσταθῶ καὶ θαρρῶ τῷ
διοικοῦντι.

ια'. “Οταν ἀναγκασθῆς ὑπὸ τῶν περιεστηκ-
ότων οίονει διαταραχθῆναι, ταχέως ἐπάνιθι εἰς
ἑαυτὸν καὶ μὴ ὑπὲρ τὰ ἀναγκαῖα ἔξιστασο τοῦ
ρύθμοῦ· ἔση γὰρ ἐγκρατέστερος τῆς ἀρμονίας
τῷ συνεχῶς εἰς αὐτὴν ἐπανέρχεσθαι.

ιβ'. Εἰ μητριαίν τε ἄμα εἶχες καὶ μητέρα,

¹ cp. Epict. *Frag.* 130. So Diogenes, being asked “ How shall I avenge myself of mine enemy ? ” said, “ By behaving like a gentleman,” Plut. *de Leg. Poet.* 5.

BOOK VI

6. The best way of avenging thyself is not to do likewise.¹

7. Delight in this one thing and take thy rest therein—from social act to go on to social act, keeping all thy thoughts on God.

8. The ruling Reason it is that can arouse and deflect itself, make itself whatever it will,² and invest everything that befalls with such a semblance as it wills.

9. In accordance with the Nature of the Universe is accomplished each several thing. For surely this cannot be in accordance with any other nature, that either envelops it from without, or is enveloped by it within, or exists in external detachment outside it.

10. Either a medley and a tangled web³ and a dispersion abroad, or a unity and a plan and a Providence. If the former, why should I even wish to abide in such a random welter and chaos? Why care for anything else than to *turn again to the dust* at last.⁴ Why be disquieted? For, do what I will, the dispersion must overtake me. But if the latter, I bow in reverence, my feet are on the rock, and I put my trust in the Power that rules.

11. When forced, as it seems, by thine environment to be utterly disquieted, return with all speed into thy self, staying in discord no longer than thou must. By constant recurrence to the harmony,⁵ thou wilt gain more command over it.

12. Hadst thou at once a stepmother and a mother

² v. 19.

³ iv. 27; vii. 50.

⁴ Hom. *Il.* vii. 99; *cp.* below, vii. 50.

⁵ *cp.* Dio Chrys. xxxii. 676 R. ξεω τῆς ἀρμονίας τῆς κατὰ φύσιν.

MARCUS AURELIUS

έκείνην τ' ἀν ἐθεράπευες, καὶ ὅμως ἡ ἐπάνοδός σοι πρὸς τὴν μητέρα συνεχής ἐγίνετο. τοῦτο σοι νῦν ἐστιν ἡ αὐλὴ καὶ ἡ φιλοσοφία· ὥδε πολλάκις ἐπάνιθι καὶ προσαναπαύου ταύτη, δι’ ἣν καὶ τὰ ἔκει σοι ἀνεκτὰ φαίνεται καὶ σὺ ἐν αὐτοῖς ἀνεκτός.

ιγ'. Οἶον δὴ τὸ φαντασίαν λαμβάνειν ἐπὶ τῶν ὅψων καὶ τῶν τοιούτων ἐδωδίμων, ὅτι νεκρὸς οὗτος ἰχθύος, οὗτος δὲ νεκρὸς ὄρνιθος ἡ χοίρου· καὶ πάλιν ὅτι ὁ Φάλερνος χυλάριόν ἐστι σταφυλίου, καὶ ἡ περιπόρφυρος τριχία· προβατίου αἵματίῳ κόγχης δεδευμένα· καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν κατὰ τὴν συνουσίαν ἐντερίου παράτριψις καὶ μετά τινος σπασμοῦ μυξαρίου ἔκκρισις· οἷα δὴ αὗταί εἰσιν αἱ φαντασίαι καθικνούμεναι αὐτῶν τῶν πραγμάτων καὶ διεξιοῦσαι δι’ αὐτῶν, ὥστε ὄραν, οἴα τινά ποτ’ ἐστίν· οὕτως δεῖ παρ’ ὅλον τὸν βίον ποιεῖν καί, ὅπου λίαν ἀξιόπιστα τὰ πράγματα φαντάζεται, ἀπογυμνοῦν αὐτὰ καὶ τὴν εὐτέλειαν αὐτῶν καθορᾶν καὶ τὴν ἴστορίαν,† ἐφ’ ἡ σεμνύνεται, περιαιρεῖν. δεινὸς γὰρ ὁ τῦφος παραλογιστὴς καὶ, ὅτε δοκεῖς μάλιστα περὶ τὰ σπουδαῖα καταγίνεσθαι, τότε μάλιστα καταγητεύει. ὅρα γοῦν, ὁ Κράτης τί περὶ αὐτοῦ τοῦ Ξενοκράτους λέγει. .

ιδ'. Τὰ πλεῖστα, ὡν ἡ πληθὺς θαυμάζει, εἰς γενικώτατα ἀνάγεται, τὰ ὑπὸ ἔξεως ἡ φύσεως συνεχόμενα, λίθους, ξύλα, συκᾶς, ἀμπέλους,

¹ Sen. *Ep.* 103.

² For life in kings' courts see Lucian, *Calumn.* 10, and *Icaro-Men.* 16. ³ cp. Lucian, *Dem.* § 41.

⁴ cp. Tzetz. *Chil.* vii. 801. He reads *νευρίου* for *ἐντερίου*.

BOOK VI

thou wouldest pay due service to the former, and yet thy constant recourse would be to thy mother. So hast thou now the court and philosophy for step-mother and mother. Cease not then to come to the latter and take thy rest in her,¹ whereby shall both thy court life seem more tolerable² to thee, and thou to thy court life.

13. As in the case of meat and similar eatables the thought strikes us, this is the dead body of a fish, this of a fowl or pig; and again that this Falernian is merely the juice of a grape-cluster, and this purple-edged robe is nought but sheep's wool³ steeped in the blood of a shell-fish; or, of sexual intercourse, that it is merely internal attrition and the spasmodic excretion of mucus⁴—such, I say, as are these impressions that get to grips with the actual things and enter into the heart of them, so as to see them as they really are, thus should it be thy life through, and where things look to be above measure convincing, laying them quite bare, behold their paltriness and strip off their conventional prestige. For conceit is a past master in fallacies and, when thou flatterest thyself most that thou art engaged in worthy tasks, then art thou most of all deluded by it. At any rate, see what Crates has to say about none other than Xenocrates.⁵

14. Objects admired by the common sort come chiefly under things of the most general kind, which are held together by physical coherence,⁶ such as stones and wood, or by a natural unity, such as figs,

⁵ It is not known what Marcus here refers to.

⁶ cp. Sext. Emp. *adv. Math.* viii. 2; ix. 81, τὰ μὲν ὑπὸ ψιλῆς ἔξεως συνέχεται, τὰ δὲ ὑπὸ φύσεως, τὰ δὲ ὑπὸ ψυχῆς· καὶ ἔξεως μὲν ὡς λίθοι· καὶ ξύλα, φύσεως δὲ καθάπερ τὰ φυτά, ψυχῆς δὲ τὰ ζῷα.

MARCUS AURELIUS

έλαιας· τὰ δὲ ὑπὸ τῶν ὀλίγῳ μετριωτέρων¹ εἰς τὰ ὑπὸ ψυχῆς, οἷον ποίμνας, ἀγέλας· τὰ δὲ ὑπὸ τῶν ἔτι χαριεστέρων εἰς τὰ ὑπὸ λογικῆς ψυχῆς, οὐ μέντοι καθολικῆς, ἀλλὰ καθὸ τεχνικὴ ἡ ἄλλως πως ἐντρεχῆς, ἡ κατὰ φιλὸν τὸ πλῆθος ἀνδραπόδων κεκτῆσθαι. ὁ δὲ ψυχὴν λογικὴν καθολικὴν καὶ πολιτικὴν τιμῶν οὐδὲν ἔτι τῶν ἄλλων ἐπιστρέφεται, πρὸ ἀπάντων δὲ τὴν ἑαυτοῦ ψυχὴν λογικῶς καὶ κοινωνικῶς ἔχουσαν καὶ κινουμένην διασώζει καὶ τῷ ὅμογενεῖ εἰς τοῦτο συνεργεῖ.

ιε'. Τὰ μὲν σπεύδει γίνεσθαι, τὰ δὲ σπεύδει γεγονέναι, καὶ τοῦ γινομένου δὲ ἥδη τι ἀπέσβηρύσεις καὶ ἄλλοιώσεις ἀνανεοῦσι τὸν κόσμον διηγεκῶς, ὥσπερ τὸν ἄπειρον αἱώνα ἡ τοῦ χρόνου ἀδιάλειπτος φορὰ νέοι ἀεὶ παρέχεται. ἐν δὴ τούτῳ τῷ ποταμῷ τί ἄν τις τούτων τῶν παραθεόντων ἐκτιμήσειεν, ἐφ' οὖ στῆναι οὐκ ἔξεστιν; ὥσπερ εἴ τις τι τῶν παραπετομένων στρουθαρίων φιλεῖν ἄρχοιτο· τὸ δ' ἥδη ἔξ ὁφθαλμῶν ἀπελήλυθεν. τοιοῦτον δή τι καὶ αὐτὴ ἡ ζωὴ ἐκάστου, οἷον ἡ ἀφ' αἴματος ἀναθυμίασις καὶ ἡ ἐκ τοῦ ἀέρος ἀνάπνευσις. ὃποιον γάρ ἐστι τὸ ἄπαξ ἐλκύσαι τὸν ἀέρα καὶ ἀποδοῦναι, ὅπερ παρέκαστον ποιοῦμεν, τοιοῦτόν ἐστι καὶ τὸ τὴν πᾶσαν ἀναπνευστικὴν δύναμιν, ἦν χθὲς καὶ πρώην ἀποτεχθεὶς ἐκτήσω, ἀποδοῦναι ἐκεῖ, ὅθεν τὸ πρῶτον ἔσπασας.

¹ <θαυμαζόμενα> Mor.

BOOK VI

vines, olives; and those which are admired by persons of a somewhat higher capacity may be classed as things which are held together by a conscious life, such as flocks and herds; and those which are admired by persons still more refined, as things held together by a rational soul; I do not mean rational as part of the Universal Reason, but in the sense of master of an art or expert in some other way, or merely in so far as to own a host of slaves. But he that prizes a soul which is rational, universal, and civic, no longer turns after anything else, but rather than everything besides keeps his own soul, in itself and in its activity, rational and social, and to this end works conjointly with all that is akin to him.

15. Some things are hastening to be, others to be no more, while of those that haste into being some part is already extinct. Fluxes and changes perpetually renew the world, just as the unbroken march of time makes ever new the infinity of ages. In this river of change,¹ which of the things which swirl past him, whereon no firm foothold is possible, should a man prize so highly? As well fall in love with a sparrow² that flits past and in a moment is gone from our eyes. In fact a man's life itself is but as an exhalation from blood³ and an inhalation from the air. For just as it is to draw in the air once into our lungs and give it back again, as we do every moment, so is it to give back thither, whence thou didst draw it first, thy faculty of breathing which thou didst receive at thy birth yesterday or the day before.

¹ iv. 43; vii. 19.

² cp. the parable of the sparrow in Bede ii. 13.

³ v. 33.

MARCUS AURELIUS

- ις'. Οὔτε τὸ διαπνεῖσθαι ὡς τὰ φυτὰ τίμιον, οὔτε τὸ ἀναπνεῦν ὡς τὰ βοσκήματα καὶ τὰ θηρία, οὔτε τὸ τυποῦσθαι κατὰ φαντασίαν, οὔτε τὸ νευροσπαστεῖσθαι καθ' ὄρμήν, οὔτε τὸ συναγελάζεσθαι, οὔτε τὸ τρέφεσθαι· τοῦτο γὰρ ὅμοιον τῷ ἀποκρίνειν τὰ περιττώματα τῆς τροφῆς.
- 2 Τί οὖν τίμιον; τὸ κροτεῖσθαι; οὐχὶ. οὐκοῦν οὐδὲ τὸ ὑπὸ γλωσσῶν κροτεῖσθαι· αἱ γὰρ παρὰ τῶν πολλῶν εὐφημίαι κρότος γλωσσῶν. ἀφῆκας οὖν καὶ τὸ δοξάριον· τί καταλείπεται τίμιον; δοκῶ μὲν τὸ κατὰ τὴν ἴδιαν κατασκευὴν κινεῖσθαι καὶ ἵσχεσθαι, ἐφ' ὃ καὶ αἱ ἐπιμέλειαι ἄγουσι καὶ αἱ τέχναι. ἢ τε γὰρ τέχνη πᾶσα τοῦτο στοχάζεται, ἵνα τὸ κατασκευασθὲν ἐπιτηδείως ἔχῃ πρὸς τὸ ἔργον πρὸς ὃ κατεσκεύασται· ὃ τε φυτουργὸς ὁ ἐπιμελούμενος τῆς ἀμπέλου καὶ ὁ πωλοδάμνης καὶ ὁ τοῦ κυνὸς ἐπιμελούμενος, τοῦτο ζητεῖ. αἱ δὲ παιδαγωγίαι, αἱ δὲ διδασκαλίαι ἐπὶ τὶ¹ σπεύδουσιν. ὥδε οὖν τὸ τίμιον.
- 3 Καὶ τοῦτο μὲν ἀν εὑ ἔχῃ, οὐδὲν τῶν ἄλλων περιποιήσεις σεαυτῷ. οὐ παύσῃ καὶ ἄλλα πολλὰ τιμῶν; οὗτ' οὖν ἐλεύθερος ἔσῃ οὔτε αὐτάρκης οὔτε ἀπαθής. ἀνάγκη γὰρ φθονεῖν, ζηλοτυπεῖν, ὑφορᾶσθαι τοὺς ἀφελέσθαι ἐκεῖνα δυναμένους, ἐπιβουλεύειν τοῖς ἔχουσι τὸ τιμώμενον ὑπὸ σοῦ· ὅλως πεφύρθαι ἀνάγκη τὸν ἐκείνων τινὸς ἐνδεῆ· προσέτι δὲ πολλὰ καὶ τοῖς

¹ τὶ P; τὶ AD: perhaps τουτὶ.

BOOK VI

16. Neither is it an inner respiration,¹ such as that of plants, that we should prize, nor the breathing which we have in common with cattle and wild animals, nor the impressions we receive through our senses, nor that we are pulled by our impulses like marionettes,² nor our gregarious instincts, nor our need of nutriment; for that is on a par with the rejection of the waste products of our food.

What then is to be prized? The clapping of hands? No. Then not the clapping of tongues either. For the acclamations of the multitude are but a clapping of tongues. So overboard goes that poor thing Fame also. What is left to be prized? This methinks: to limit our action or inaction to the needs of our own constitution, an end that all occupations and arts set before themselves. For the aim of every art is that the thing constituted should be adapted to the work for which it has been constituted. It is so with the vine-dresser who looks after the vines, the colt-trainer, and the keeper of the kennels. And this is the end which the care of children and the methods of teaching have in view. There then is the thing to be prized!

This once fairly made thine own, thou wilt not seek to gain for thyself any of the other things as well. Wilt thou not cease prizes many other things also? Then thou wilt neither be free nor sufficient unto thyself nor unmoved by passion. For thou must needs be full of envy and jealousy, be suspicious of those that can rob thee of such things, and scheme against those who possess what thou prizest. In fine, a man who needs any of those things cannot but be in complete turmoil, and in many cases find

¹ iii. 1.

² ii. 2 etc.

MARCUS AURELIUS

θεοῖς μέμφεσθαι· ἡ δὲ τῆς ὁδίας διανοίας αἰδὼς καὶ τιμὴ σεαυτῷ τε ἀρεστόν σε ποιήσει καὶ τοὺς ἀνθρώπους εὐάρμοστον καὶ τοῖς θεοῖς σύμφωνον, τουτέστιν ἐπαινοῦντα, ὅσα ἐκεῖνοι διαινέμουσι καὶ διατετάχασιν.

ιζ'. Ανω, κάτω, κύκλῳ φοραὶ τῶν στοιχείων. ἡ δὲ τῆς ἀρετῆς κίνησις ἐν οὐδεμιᾷ τούτων, ἀλλὰ θειότερόν τι καὶ ὁδῷ δυσεπινοήτῳ προϊοῦσα εὐόδει.

ιη'. Οἶόν ἔστιν, ὃ ποιοῦσι. τοὺς μὲν ἐπὶ τοῦ αὐτοῦ χρόνου καὶ μεθ' ἐαυτῶν ζῶντας ἀνθρώπους εὐφημεῖν οὐ θέλουσιν· αὐτοὶ δὲ ὑπὸ τῶν μεταγενεστέρων εὐφημηθῆναι, οὓς οὔτε εἰδόν ποτε οὔτε ὄψονται, περὶ πολλοῦ ποιοῦνται. τοῦτο δὲ ἐγγύς ἔστι τῷ λυπηθῆναι ἄν, ὅτι οὐχὶ καὶ οἱ προγενέστεροι περὶ σοῦ λόγους εὐφήμους ἐποιοῦντο.

ιθ'. Μή, εἴ τι αὐτῷ σοὶ δυσκαταπόνητον, τοῦτο ἀνθρώπῳ ἀδύνατον ὑπολαμβάνειν· ἀλλ' εἴ τι ἀνθρώπῳ δυνατὸν καὶ οἰκεῖον, τοῦτο καὶ σεαυτῷ ἐφικτὸν νόμιζε.

κ'. Ἐν τοῖς γυμνασίοις καὶ ὄνυξι κατέδρυψέ τις καὶ τῇ κεφαλῇ ἐραγεὶς πληγὴν ἐποίησεν· ἀλλ' οὔτε ἐπισημανόμεθα οὔτε προσκόπτομεν οὔτε ὑφορώμεθα ὕστερον ὡς ἐπίβουλον· καίτοι φυλαττόμεθα, οὐ μέντοι ὡς ἐχθρὸν οὐδὲ μεθ' ὑποψίας, ἀλλ' ἐκκλίσεως εὐμενοῦς. τοιοῦτόν τι γενέσθω καὶ ἐν τοῖς λοιποῖς μέρεσι τοῦ βίου· πολλὰ παρενθυμώμεθα τῶν οἰλον προσγυμναζομένων. ἔξεστι γάρ, ὡς ἐφην, ἐκκλίνειν, καὶ μηδὲν ὑποπτεύειν μηδὲ ἀπέχθεσθαι.

κα'. Εἴ τίς με ἐλέγξαι καὶ παραστῆσαι μοι,

BOOK VI

fault even with the Gods.¹ But by reverencing and prizing thine own mind, thou shalt make thyself pleasing in thine own sight, in accord with mankind, and in harmony with the Gods, that is, grateful to them for all that they dispense and have ordained.

17. Up, down,² round-wise sweep the elements along. But the motion of virtue is in none of these ways. It is something more divine, and going forward on a mysterious path fares well upon its way.³

18. What a way to act! Men are chary of commanding their contemporaries and associates, while they themselves set great store by the commendation of posterity, whom they have never seen or shall see. But this is next door to taking it amiss that thy predecessors also did not commend thee.

19. Because thou findest a thing difficult for thyself to accomplish do not conceive it to be impracticable for others; but whatever is possible for a man and in keeping with his nature consider also attainable by thyself..

20. Suppose that a competitor in the ring has gashed us with his nails and butted us violently with his head, we do not protest or take it amiss or suspect our opponent in future of foul play. Still we do keep an eye on him, not indeed as an enemy, or from suspicion of him, but with good-humoured avoidance. Act much in the same way in all the other parts of life. Let us make many allowances for our fellow-athletes as it were. Avoidance is always possible, as I have said, without suspicion or hatred.

21. If any one can prove and bring home to me

¹ vi. 41. ² vi. 17; iv. 46; ix. 28.

³ vii. 53.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ὅτι οὐκ ὀρθῶς ὑπολαμβάνω ἡ πράσσω, δύναται,
χαίρων μεταθήσομαι· ζητῶ γὰρ τὴν ἀληθειαν,
ὑφ' ἡς οὐδεὶς πώποτε ἐβλάβη. βλάπτεται δὲ ὁ
ἐπιμένων ἐπὶ τῆς ἑαυτοῦ ἀπάτης καὶ ἀγνοίας.

κβ'. Ἐγὼ τὸ ἐμαυτοῦ καθῆκον ποιῶ· τὰ ἄλλα
με οὐ περισπᾶ· ἥτοι γὰρ ἄψυχα ἡ ἄλογα, ἡ
πεπλανημένα καὶ τὴν ὁδὸν ἀγνοοῦντα.

κγ'. Τοῖς μὲν ἀλόγοις ζῷοις καὶ καθόλου
πράγμασι καὶ ὑποκειμένοις, ως λόγου ἔχων λόγου
μὴ ἔχουσι, χρῶ μεγαλοφρόνως καὶ ἐλευθέρως·
τοῖς δὲ ἀνθρώποις, ως λόγου ἔχουσι, χρῶ
κοινωνικῶς. ἐφ' ἀπασι δὲ θεοὺς ἐπικαλοῦ· καὶ
μὴ διαφέρου πρὸς τὸ πόσῳ χρόνῳ ταῦτα πράξεις·
ἀρκοῦσι γὰρ καὶ τρεῖς ὥραι τοιαῦται.

κδ'. Ἀλέξανδρος ὁ Μακεδῶν καὶ ὁ ὄρεωκόμος
αὐτοῦ ἀποθανόντες εἰς ταῦτὸ κατέστησαν· ἥτοι
γὰρ <ἀν>ελήφθησαν εἰς τοὺς αὐτοὺς τοῦ κόσμου
σπερματικοὺς λόγους ἡ διεσκεδάσθησαν ὁμοίως
εἰς τὰς ἀτόμους.

κέ'. Ἐνθυμήθητι, πόσα κατὰ τον· αὐτὸν
ἀκαριαῖον χρόνον ἐν ἐκάστῳ ἡμῶν ἅμα γίνεται
σωματικὰ ὄμοι καὶ ψυχικά· καὶ οὕτως οὐθαυμά-
σεις, εἰ πολὺ πλείω, μᾶλλον δὲ πάντα τὰ
γινόμενα¹ ἐν τῷ ἐνί τε καὶ σύμπαντι, δὲ κόσμον
ὄνομάζομεν, ἅμα ἐνυφίσταται.

κσ'. Ἐάν τίς σοι προβάλῃ, “πῶς γράφεται τὸ
‘Αντωνίνου ὄνομα,” μήτι κατευτεινόμενος προοίση
ἔκαστον τῶν στοιχείων; τί οὖν, ἐὰν ὀργίζωνται,

¹ γινόμενα <καὶ γεννητὰ> Schenkl.

¹ iv. 12; vi. 30, § 2; viii. 16.

² iv. 46.

³ Usually singular in the Greek. See iv. 14. 21; ix. 1.

BOOK VI

that a conception or act of mine is wrong, I will amend¹ it, and be thankful. For I seek the truth, whereby no one was ever harmed. But he is harmed who persists in his own self-deception and ignorance.

22. I do my own duty; other things do not distract me. For they are either inanimate or irrational, or such as have gone astray and know not the road.²

23. Conduct thyself with magnanimity and freedom towards irrational creatures and, generally, towards circumstances and objective things, for thou hast reason and they have none. But men have reason, therefore treat them as fellow creatures. And in all cases call upon the Gods, and do not concern thyself with the question, *How long shall I do this?* Three hours are enough so spent.

24. Death reduced to the same condition Alexander the Macedonian and his muleteer, for either they were taken back into the same Seminal Reason³ of the Universe or scattered alike into the atoms.⁴

25. Bear in mind how many things happen to each one of us with respect to our bodies as well as our souls in the same momentary space of time, so wilt thou cease to wonder that many more things—not to say all the things that come into existence in that One and Whole which in fact we call the Universe—subsist in it at one time.

26. If one enquire of thee, *How is the name Antoninus written?* wilt thou with vehemence enunciate each constituent letter? What then? If thy listeners lose their temper, wilt thou lose

⁴ Marcus puts the two alternatives (Stoic and Epicurean), though he does not himself admit the second.

MARCUS AURELIUS

μήτι ἀντοργιῆ; οὐκ ἐξαριθμήσῃ πράως προϊὼν
ἔκαστον τῶν γραμμάτων; οὕτως οὖν καὶ ἐνθάδε
μέμνησο, ὅτι πᾶν καθῆκον ἐξ ἀριθμῶν τινῶν
συμπληροῦται. τούτους δεῖ τηροῦντα καὶ μὴ
θορυβούμενον μηδὲ τοῖς δυσχεραίνουσιν ἀντι-
δυσχεραίνοντα περαίνειν ὁδῷ τὸ προκείμενον.

κζ'. Πῶς ὡμόν ἔστι, μὴ ἐπιτρέπειν τοῖς
ἀνθρώποις ὄρμᾶν ἐπὶ τὰ φαινόμενα αὐτοῖς οἰκεῖα
καὶ συμφέροντα· καίτοι τρόπον τινὰ οὐ συγ-
χωρεῖς αὐτοῖς τοῦτο ποιεῖν, ὅταν ἀγανακτῆς,
ὅτι ἀμαρτάνουσι. φέρονται γάρ πάντως ὡς
ἐπὶ οἰκεῖα καὶ συμφέροντα αὐτοῖς. “’Αλλ’ οὐκ
ἔχει οὕτως.” οὐκοῦν δίδασκε καὶ δείκνυε μὴ
ἀγανακτῶν.

κη'. Θάνατος ἀνάπαυλα αἰσθητικῆς ἀντι-
τυπίας καὶ ὄρμητικῆς νευροσπαστίας καὶ δια-
νοητικῆς διεξόδου καὶ τῆς πρὸς τὴν σάρκα
λειτουργίας.

κθ'. Αἰσχρόν ἔστιν, ἐν ὧ βίῳ τὸ σῶμά σοι
μὴ ἀπαυδᾶ, ἐν τούτῳ τὴν ψυχὴν προαπαυδᾶν.

λ'. “Ορα, μὴ ‘ἀποκαισαρωθῆς,’ μὴ βαφῆς·
γίνεται γάρ. τήρησον οὖν σεαυτὸν ἀπλοῦν,
ἀγαθόν, ἀκέραιον, σεμνόν, ἄκομψον, τοῦ δικαίου
φίλον, θεοσεβῆ, εὔμενῆ, φιλόστοργον, ἐρρωμένον
πρὸς τὰ πρέποντα ἔργα. ἀγώνισαι, ἵνα τοιοῦτος
συμμείνῃς, οἷόν σε ἡθέλησε ποιῆσαι φιλοσοφία.
αἴδον θεούς, σῶζε ἀνθρώπους. βραχὺς ὁ βίος·

¹ iii. 1.

² v. 28.

³ viii. 36. So Marcus himself in a letter to Fronto (*ad Caes.*

BOOK VI

thine? Wouldst thou not go on gently to enumerate each letter? So recollect that in life too every duty is the sum of separate items.¹ Of these thou must take heed, and carry through methodically what is set before thee, in no wise troubled or shewing counter-irritation against those who are irritated with thee.

27. How intolerant it is not to permit men to cherish an impulse towards what is in their eyes congenial and advantageous! Yet in a sense thou withholdest from them the right to do this, when thou resentest their wrong-doing. For they are undoubtedly drawn to what they deem congenial and advantageous. *But they are mistaken.* Well, then, teach and enlighten them without any resentment.²

28. Death is a release from the impressions of sense, and from impulses that make us their puppets, from the vagaries of the mind, and the hard service of the flesh.

29. It is a disgrace for the soul to be the first to succumb in that life in which the body does not succumb.³

30. See thou be not *Caesarified*, nor take that dye,⁴ for there is the possibility. So keep thyself a simple and good man, uncorrupt, dignified, plain, a friend of justice, god-fearing, gracious, affectionate, manful in doing thy duty. Strive to be always such as Philosophy minded to make thee. Revere the Gods, save mankind. Life is short. This only is the

iv. 8): *Turpe fuerit diutius vitam corporis quam animi studium ad reciperandam sanitatem posse durare.*

⁴ There was also a "philosophic dye"; see Lucian, *Bis Accus.* 8.

MARCUS AURELIUS

εὶς καρπὸς τῆς ἐπιγείου ζωῆς, διάθεσις ὄσια καὶ πράξεις κοινωνικαί.

2 Πάντα ώς Ἀντωνίνου μαθητής· τὸ ὑπὲρ τῶν κατὰ λόγου πρασσομένων εὔτονον ἐκείνου, καὶ τὸ ὁμαλὲς πανταχοῦ, καὶ τὸ ὅσιον, καὶ τὸ εὔδιον¹ τοῦ προσώπου, καὶ τὸ μειλίχιον, καὶ τὸ ἀκενόδοξον, καὶ τὸ περὶ τὴν κατάληψιν τῶν πραγμάτων φιλότιμον· καὶ ως ἐκεῖνος οὐκ ἄν τι ὅλως παρῆκε, μὴ πρότερον εὐ μάλα κατιδῶν καὶ σαφῶς νοήσας· καὶ ως ἔφερεν ἐκεῖνος τοὺς ἀδίκως αὐτὸν μεμφομένους μὴ ἀντιμεμφόμενος· καὶ ως ἐπ' οὐδὲν ἔσπευδεν· καὶ ως διαβολὰς οὐκ ἐδέχετο· καὶ ως ἀκριβὴς ἦν ἔξεταστὴς ἡθῶν καὶ πράξεων· καὶ οὐκ ὄνειδιστής, οὐ ψιφοδεής, οὐχ ὑπόπτης, οὐ σοφιστής· καὶ ως ὀλίγοις ἀρκούμενος, οἶνον οἰκήσει, στρωμνῇ, ἐσθῆτι, τροφῇ, ὑπηρεσίᾳ· καὶ ως φιλόπονος καὶ μακρόθυμος· καὶ οἷς μέν<ειν> ἐν τῷ <αὐτῷ>² μέχρι ἔσπέρας διὰ τὴν λιτὴν δίαιταν μηδὲ τοῦ ἀποκρίνειν τὰ περιττώματα παρὰ τὴν συνήθη ὥραν χρήζων· καὶ τὸ βέβαιον καὶ ὅμοιον ἐν ταῖς φιλίαις αὐτοῦ· καὶ τὸ ἀνέχεσθαι <τῶν> ἀντιβαινόντων παρρησιαστικῶς ταῖς γνώμαις αὐτοῦ, καὶ χαίρειν, εἴ τις δεικνύοι κρείττον· καὶ ως θεοσεβὴς χωρὶς δεισιδαιμονίας· ἵν' οὕτως εὐσυνειδήτῳ σοι ἐπιστῆ ἡ τελευταία ὥρα, ως ἐκείνῳ.

λα'. Ἀνάνηφε καὶ ἀνακαλοῦ σεαυτόν, καὶ ἔξυπνισθεὶς πάλιν καὶ ἐννοήσας, ὅτι ὄνειροί σοι

¹ εὔδιον Xyl.: εὐόδιον PA.

² μὲν ἐν τῷ PA : as in text Cas.

BOOK VI

harvest of earthly existence, a righteous disposition and social acts.

Do all things as a disciple of Antoninus.¹ Think of his constancy in every act rationally undertaken, his invariable equability, his piety, his serenity of countenance, his sweetness of disposition, his contempt for the bubble of fame, and his zeal for getting a true grip of affairs. How he would never on any account dismiss a thing until he had first thoroughly scrutinized and clearly conceived it ; how he put up with those who found fault with him unfairly, finding no fault with them in return ; how he was never in a hurry ; how he gave no ear to slander,² and with what nicety he tested dispositions and acts ; was no imputer of blame, and no craven, not a suspicious man, nor a sophist ; what little sufficed him whether for lodging or bed, dress, food or attendance ; how fond he was of work, and how long-suffering ; how he would remain the whole day at the same occupation,³ owing to his spare diet⁴ not even requiring to relieve nature except at the customary time ; and how loyal he was to his friends and always the same ; and his forbearance towards those who openly opposed his views, and his pleasure when anyone pointed out something better⁵ ; and how god-fearing he was and yet not given to superstition. Take heed to all this, that thy last hour come upon thee as much at peace with thy conscience as he was.

31. Be sober once more and call back thy senses, and being roused again from sleep and, realizing that they were but dreams that beset thee, now awake

¹ cp. i. 16 throughout.

² i. 5.

³ Or, *in the same place.*

⁴ cp. i. 3.

⁵ vi. 21 ; viii. 16.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἡνώχλουν, πάλιν ἐγρηγορῶς βλέπε ταῦτα, ὡς ἔκεīνα ἔβλεπες.

λβ'. Ἐκ σωματίου εἰμὶ καὶ ψυχῆς. τῷ μὲν οὐν σωματίῳ πάντα ἀδιάφορα· οὐδὲ γὰρ δύναται διαφέρεσθαι. τῇ δὲ διανοίᾳ ἀδιάφορα, ὅσα μή ἔστιν αὐτῆς ἐνεργήματα· ὅσα δέ γε αὐτῆς ἔστιν ἐνεργήματα, ταῦτα πάντα ἐπ' αὐτῇ ἔστιν. καὶ τούτων μέντοι περὶ μόνον τὸ παρὸν πραγματεύεται· τὰ γὰρ μέλλοντα καὶ παρῳχηκότα ἐνεργήματα αὐτῆς καὶ αὐτὰ ἥδη ἀδιάφορα.

λγ'. Οὐκ ἔστιν ὁ πόνος τῇ χειρὶ οὐδὲ τῷ ποδὶ παρὰ φύσιν, μέχρις ἂν ποιῇ ὁ ποὺς τὰ τοῦ ποδὸς καὶ ἡ χεὶρ τὰ τῆς χειρός. οὕτως οὖν οὐδὲ ἀνθρώπῳ, ὡς ἀνθρώπῳ, παρὰ φύσιν ἔστιν ὁ πόνος, μέχρις ἂν ποιῇ τὰ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου. εἰ δὲ παρὰ φύσιν αὐτῷ οὐκ ἔστιν, οὐδὲ κακόν ἔστιν αὐτῷ.

λδ'. Ἡλίκας ἥδονὰς ἥσθησαν λησταί, κίναιδοι, πατραλοῖαι, τύραννοι.

λε'. Οὐχ ὄρᾶς, πῶς οἱ βάναυσοι τεχνῦται ἀρμόζονται μὲν μέχρι τινὸς πρὸς τοὺς ἴδιώτας, οὐδὲν ἥσσον μέντοι ἀντέχονται τοῦ λόγου τῆς τέχνης, καὶ τούτου ἀποστῆναι οὐχ ὑπομένουσιν; οὐ δεινόν, εἰ ὁ ἀρχιτέκτων καὶ ὁ ἵατρὸς μᾶλλον αἰδέσονται τὸν τῆς ἴδιας τέχνης λόγον ἢ ὁ ἀνθρωπος τὸν ἑαυτοῦ, δις αὐτῷ κοινός ἔστι πρὸς τοὺς θεούς;

λσ'. Ἡ Ἀσία, ἡ Εὐρώπη γωνίαι τοῦ κόσμου· πᾶν πέλαγος σταγῶν τοῦ κόσμου· Ἡ Αθως βωλάριον τοῦ κόσμου· πᾶν τὸ ἐνεστώς τοῦ χρόνου στιγμὴ τοῦ αἰώνος. πάντα μικρά, εὔτρεπτα, ἐναφανιζόμενα.

BOOK VI

again, look at these realities as thou didst at those thy dreams.

32. I consist of body and soul.¹ To the body indeed all things are indifferent, for it cannot concern itself with them. But to the mind² only those things are indifferent which are not its own activities; and all those things that are its own activities are in its own power. Howbeit, of these it is only concerned with the present; for as to its activities in the past and the future, these two rank at once among things indifferent.

33. For hand or foot to feel pain is no violation of nature, so long as the foot does its own appointed work, and the hand its own. Similarly pain for a man, as man, is no unnatural thing so long as he does a man's appointed work. But, if not unnatural, then is it not an evil either.

34. The pleasures of the brigand, the pathic, the parricide, the tyrant³—just think what they are!

35. Dost thou not see how the mechanic craftsman, though to some extent willing to humour the non-expert, yet holds fast none the less to the principles of his handicraft, and cannot endure to depart from them. Is it not strange that the architect and the physician should hold the rationale of their respective arts in higher reverence than a man his own reason, which he has in common with the Gods?

36. Asia, Europe, corners of the Universe: the whole Ocean a drop in the Universe: Athos but a little clod therein: all the present a point in Eternity:—everything on a tiny scale, so easily changed, so quickly vanished.

¹ v. 13.

² Here διάνοια = ψυχή.

³ v. 10.

MARCUS AURELIUS

2 Πάντα ἐκεῖθεν ἔρχεται, ἀπ' ἐκείνου τοῦ κοινοῦ ἡγεμονικοῦ ὄρμήσαντα ἡ κατ' ἐπακολούθησιν. καὶ τὸ χάσμα οὖν τοῦ λέοντος καὶ τὸ δηλητήριον καὶ πᾶσα κακουργία, ὡς ἄκανθα, ὡς βόρβορος, ἐκείνων ἐπιγεννήματα τῶν σεμνῶν καὶ καλῶν. μὴ οὖν αὐτὰ ἀλλότρια τούτου, οὐ σέβεις, φαντάζου· ἀλλὰ τὴν πάντων πηγὴν ἐπιλογίζου.

λξ'. 'Ο τὰ νῦν ἴδων πάντα ἔώρακεν, ὅσα τε ἔξ ἀιδίου ἐγένετο καὶ ὅσα εἰς τὸ ἄπειρον ἔσται· πάντα γὰρ ὁμογενῆ καὶ ὁμοειδῆ.

λη'. Πολλάκις ἐνθυμοῦ τὴν ἐπισύνδεσιν πάντων τῶν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ καὶ σχέσιν πρὸς ἄλληλα. τρόπον γάρ τινα πάντα ἀλλήλοις ἐπιπέπλεκται, καὶ πάντα κατὰ τοῦτο φίλα ἀλλήλοις ἔστιν· καὶ γὰρ ἄλλω ἄλλο¹ ἔξῆς ἔστι ταῦτα² διὰ τὴν τοικὴν κίνησιν³ καὶ σύμπνοιαν καὶ τὴν ἔνωσιν τῆς οὐσίας.

λθ'. Οἱς συγκεκλήρωσαι πράγμασι, τούτοις συνάρμοζε σεαυτόν· καὶ οἱς συνείληχας ἀνθρώποις, τούτους φίλει, ἀλλ' ἀληθινῶς.

μ'. "Οργανον, ἐργαλεῖον, σκεῦος πᾶν εἰ, πρὸς δὲ κατεσκεύασται, ποιεῖ, εὐ ἔχει· καίτοι ἐκεῖ ὁ κατασκευάσας ἐκποδών. ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν ὑπὸ φύσεως συνεχομένων ἔνδον ἔστι καὶ παραμένει ἡ κατασκευάσασα δύναμις· καθὸ καὶ μᾶλλον αἰδεῖσθαι αὐτὴν δεῖ καὶ νομίζειν, ἐὰν κατὰ τὸ βούλημα

¹ ἄλλφ ἄλλο Cor.: ἄλλφ P ἄλλο A.

² τοῦτο PA : ταῦτα Schenkl.

³ τοπικὴν κόνησιν P by an obvious misprint as Xyl. translates *constantem motum*.

¹ ii. 3; v. 8, § 5; xii. 26.

² iii. 2.

³ ii. 14; iv. 32; vii. 1, 49; xi. 1; xii. 24.

BOOK VI

All things come from that one source, from that ruling Reason of the Universe,¹ either under a primary impulse from it or by way of consequence. And therefore the gape of the lion's jaws² and poison and all noxious things, such as thorns and mire, are but after-results of the grand and the beautiful. Look not then on these as alien to that which thou dost reverence, but turn thy thoughts to the one source of all things.

37. He, who sees what now is, hath seen all that ever hath been from times everlasting, and that shall be to eternity³; for all things are of one lineage and one likeness.

38. Meditate often on the intimate union and mutual interdependence of all things in the Universe. For in a manner all things are mutually intertwined, and thus all things have a liking for one another. For these things are consequent one on another by reason of their contracting and expanding⁴ motion, the sympathy⁵ that breathes through them, and the unity of all substance.

39. Fit thyself to the environment that is thy portion,⁶ and love the men among whom thy lot is thrown, but whole-heartedly.⁷

40. Every implement, tool, or vessel is well if it do the work for which it is made, and yet in their case the maker is not at hand. But in the things which owe their organic unity to Nature, the Power that made is within them and abides there. Wherefore also must thou reverence it the more, and

⁴ τονικήν; see Index III.

⁵ cp. Diog. Laert. Zeno 70: τὴν τῶν οὐρανίων πρὸς τὰ ἐπίγεια συμπνολαν καὶ συντονίαν. ⁶ viii. 57.

⁷ vi. 48; viii. 22. cp. 1 St. Peter, i. 22.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ταύτης σαυτὸν¹ ἔχης καὶ² διεξάγης, ἔχειν σοι πάντα κατὰ νοῦν. ἔχει δὲ οὕτως καὶ τῷ παντὶ κατὰ νοῦν τὰ ἑαυτοῦ.

μα'. "Ο τι ἀν τῶν ἀπροαιρέτων ὑποστήσης σαυτῷ ἀγαθὸν ἡ κακόν, ἀνάγκη κατὰ τὴν περίπτωσιν τοῦ τοιούτου κακοῦ ἡ τὴν ἀπότευξιν τοῦ τοιούτου ἀγαθοῦ, μέμψασθαι σε θεοῖς, καὶ ἀνθρώπους δὲ μισῆσαι τοὺς αἰτίους ὅντας ἡ ὑποπτευομένους ἔσεσθαι τῆς ἀποτεύξεως ἡ τῆς περιπτώσεως· καὶ ἀδικοῦμεν δὴ πολλὰ διὰ τὴν πρὸς ταῦτα διαφοράν. ἐὰν δὲ μόνα τὰ ἐφ' ἡμῖν ἀγαθὰ καὶ κακὰ κρίνωμεν, οὐδεμία αἰτία καταλείπεται οὔτε θεῷ ἐγκαλέσαι οὔτε πρὸς ἄνθρωπον στῆναι στάσιν πολεμίου.

μβ'. Πάντες εἰς ἐν ἀποτέλεσμα συνεργοῦμεν, οἱ μὲν εἰδότως καὶ παρακολουθητικῶς, οἱ δὲ ἀνεπιστάτως· ὥσπερ καὶ "τοὺς καθεύδοντας," οἷμαι, ὁ Ἡράκλειτος "ἐργάτας είναι" λέγει, καὶ συνεργοὺς τῶν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ γινομένων. ἄλλος δὲ κατ' ἄλλο συνεργεῖ· ἐκ περιουσίας δὲ καὶ ὁ μεμφόμενος καὶ ὁ ἀντιβαίνειν πειρώμενος καὶ ἀναιρεῖν τὰ γινόμενα. καὶ γὰρ τοῦ τοιούτου ἔχρηζεν ὁ κόσμος. λοιπὸν οὖν σύνεις, εἰς τίνας σεαυτὸν κατατάσσεις· ἐκεῖνος μὲν γὰρ πάντως σοι καλῶς χρήσεται ὁ τὰ ὅλα διοικῶν, καὶ παραδέξεται σε εἰς μέρος τι τῶν συνεργῶν καὶ συνεργητικῶν. ἄλλὰ σὺ μὴ τοιοῦτο μέρος γένη, οἶος

¹ αὐτὸν A : omit P : σαυτὸν Cor.: αὐτὸς Schenkl.

² ἔχης καὶ P : omit A.

BOOK VI

realize that if thou keep and conduct thyself ever according to its will, all is to thy mind. So also to its mind are the things of the Universe.

41. If thou regardest anything not in thine own choice as good or evil for thyself, it is inevitable that, on the incidence of such an evil or the miscarriage of such a good, thou shouldst upbraid the Gods,¹ aye, and hate men as the actual or supposed cause of the one or the other; and in fact many are the wrong-doings we commit by setting a value on such things.² But if we discriminate as good and evil only the things in our power, there is no occasion left for accusing the Gods³ or taking the stand of an enemy towards men.

42. We are all fellow-workers towards the fulfilment of one object, some of us knowingly and intelligently, others blindly; just as Heraclitus, I think, says that *even when they sleep men are workers* and fellow-agents in all that goes on in the world.⁴ One is a co-agent in this, another in that, and in abundant measure also he that murmurs and seeks to hinder or disannul what occurs. For the Universe had need of such men also. It remains then for thee to decide with whom thou art ranging thyself. For He that controls the Universe will in any case put thee to a good use and admit thee to a place among his fellow-workers and coadjutors. But see that thou fill no such place as the paltry

¹ vi. 16 § 3; ix. 1 *ad med.* cp. Epict. i. 27 § 13.

² i.e. treating as important things which are *ἀδιάφορα*, or of no consequence either way. ³ vi. 16 § 3.

⁴ cp. iv. 46. But Plutarch in his treatise *On Superstition* cites a saying of Heraclitus to the effect that sleepers live in a world of their own.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ό εύτελής καὶ γελοῖος στίχος ἐν τῷ δράματι,
οὐ Χρύσιππος μέμνηται.

μγ̄. Μήτι ὁ ἥλιος τὰ τοῦ ὑετοῦ ἀξιοὶ ποιεῖν;
μὴ τι ὁ Ἀσκληπιὸς τὰ τῆς Καρποφόρου; τί δὲ
τῶν ἄστρων ἔκαστον; οὐχὶ διάφορα μέν, συνεργὰ
δὲ πρὸς ταῦτόν;

μδ̄. Εἰ μὲν οὖν ἐβουλεύσαντο περὶ ἐμοῦ καὶ
τῶν ἐμοὶ συμβῆναι ὀφειλόντων οἱ θεοί, καλῶς
ἐβουλεύσαντο· ἄβουλον γὰρ θεὸν οὐδὲ ἐπινοῆσαι
ῥάδιον· κακοποιῆσαι δέ με διὰ τίνα αἰτίαν
ἔμελλον ὄρμᾶν; τί γὰρ αὐτοῖς ἡ τῷ κοινῷ, οὐ
μάλιστα προνοοῦνται, ἐκ τούτου περιεγένετο;
εἰ δὲ μὴ ἐβουλεύσαντο κατ’ ἴδιαν περὶ ἐμοῦ,
περί γε τῶν κοινῶν πάντως ἐβουλεύσαντο, οἷς
κατ’ ἐπακολούθησιν καὶ ταῦτα συμβαίνοντα
ἀσπάζεσθαι καὶ στέργειν ὀφείλω. εἰ δ’ ἄρα περὶ¹
μηδενὸς βουλεύονται (πιστεύειν μὲν οὐχ ὅσιον),
ἡ μηδὲ θύωμεν μηδὲ εὐχώμεθα μηδὲ ὅμνύωμεν
μηδὲ τὰ ἄλλα πράσσωμεν, ἅπερ ἔκαστα ως πρὸς
παρόντας καὶ συμβιοῦντας τοὺς θεοὺς πράσσ-
ομεν. εἰ δὲ ἄρα περὶ μηδενὸς τῶν καθ’ ἡμᾶς
βουλεύονται, ἐμοὶ μὲν ἔξεστι περὶ ἐμαυτοῦ
βουλεύεσθαι· ἐμοὶ δέ ἔστι σκέψις περὶ τοῦ
συμφέροντος. συμφέρει δὲ ἔκάστῳ, τὸ κατὰ τὴν
έαυτοῦ κατασκευὴν καὶ φύσιν· ἡ δὲ ἐμὴ φύσις
λογικὴ καὶ πολιτικὴ· πόλις καὶ πατρὶς ώς μὲν

¹ Plutarch (*adv. Stoic.* §§ 13, 14) vigorously denounces this sophism, as he counts it, of Chrysippus that what is evil in itself has a value as a foil to the good. He quotes Chrysippus (*Frag. Phys.* 1181 Arnim):

δσκερ γὰρ αἱ κωμαδίαι ἐπιγράμμata γελοῖα φέρουσιν & καθ’
έαυτα μέν ἔστι φαῦλα, τῷ δὲ δλφ ποιήματι χάριν τίνα προστίθησιν,

BOOK VI

and ridiculous line in the play which Chrysippus mentions.¹

43. Does the sun take upon himself to discharge the functions of the rain? or Asclepius of the Fruit-bearer?² And what of each particular star? Do they not differ in glory yet co-operate to one end?

44. If the Gods have taken counsel about me and the things to befall me, doubtless they have taken good counsel. For it is not easy even to imagine a God without wisdom. And what motive could they have impelling them to do me evil? For what advantage could thereby accrue to them or to the Universe which is their special care? But if the Gods have taken no counsel for me individually, yet they have in any case done so for the interests of the Universe, and I am bound to welcome and make the best of³ those things also that befall as a necessary corollary to those interests. But if so be they take counsel about nothing at all—an impious belief—in good sooth let us have no more of sacrifices and prayers and oaths, nor do any other of these things every one of which is a recognition of the Gods as if they were at our side and dwelling amongst us—but if so be, I say, they do not take counsel about any of our concerns, it is still in my power to take counsel about myself, and it is for me to consider my own interest. And that is to every man's interest which is agreeable to his own constitution and nature. But my nature is rational and civic; my city and country, οὐτως ψέξειας ἀν αὐτὴν ἐφ' ἔαυτῆς τὴν κακίαν· τοῖς δὲ ἄλλοις οὐκ ἀχρηστός ἔστιν.

¹ That is, the Earth, or possibly Demeter.

² v. 8 § 3; x. 6, 11.

MARCUS AURELIUS

'Αντωνίνῳ μοι ἡ 'Ρώμη, ώς δὲ ἀνθρώπῳ ὁ κόσμος. τὰ ταῖς πόλεσιν οὖν ταύταις ὠφέλιμα μόνα ἔστι μοι ἀγαθά.

μέ'. "Οσα ἐκάστῳ συμβαίνει, ταῦτα τῷ ὅλῳ συμφέρει· ἥρκει τοῦτο. ἀλλ' ἔτι ἐκεῖνο ώς ἐπίπαν ὄψει παραφυλάξας, ὅσα ἀνθρώπῳ, καὶ ἑτέροις ἀνθρώποις. κοινότερον δὲ νῦν τὸ συμφέρον ἐπὶ τῶν μέσων λαμβανέσθω.

με'. "Ωσπερ προσίσταται σοι τὰ ἐν τῷ ἀμφιθεάτρῳ καὶ τοῖς τοιούτοις χωρίοις, ώς ἀεὶ τὰ αὐτὰ ὄρώμενα, καὶ τὸ ὄμοειδὲς προσκορῆ τὴν θέαν ποιεῖ· τοῦτο καὶ ἐπὶ ὅλου τοῦ βίου πάσχειν· πάντα γὰρ ἄνω κάτω τὰ αὐτὰ καὶ ἐκ τῶν αὐτῶν μέχρι τίνος οὖν;

μζ. 'Εννόει συνεχῶς παντοίους ἀνθρώπους καὶ παντοίων μὲν ἐπιτηδευμάτων, παντοδαπῶν δὲ ἔθνων, τεθνεῶτας· ὥστε κατιέναι τοῦτο μέχρι Φιλιστίωνος καὶ Φοίβου καὶ Ὁριγανίωνος. μέτιθι νῦν ἐπὶ τὰ ἄλλα φῦλα. ἐκεῖ δὴ μεταβαλεῖν ήμᾶς δεῖ, ὅπου τοσοῦτοι μὲν δεινοὶ ῥήτορες, τοσοῦτοι δὲ σεμνοὶ φιλόσοφοι, Ἡράκλειτος, Πυθαγόρας, Σωκράτης· τοσοῦτοι δὲ ἥρωες πρότερον, τοσοῦτοι δὲ ὕστερον στρατηγοί, τύραννοι· ἐπὶ τούτοις δὲ Εὔδοξος, "Ιππαρχος, Ἀρχιμήδης, ἄλλαι φύσεις ὀξεῖαι, μεγαλόφρονες, φιλοπονοι, πανούργοι, αὐθάδεις, αὐτῆς τῆς ἐπικήρ-

¹ v. 8; x. 6 etc.

² i.e. indifferent, neither good nor bad.

³ A personal touch. See Fronto, *ad Caes.* iv. 12: *theatro libros lectitabas*; ii. 6. *idem theatrum, idem odiūm* (*v.l. otium*); *cp.* ii. 10; Naber, p. 34; *cp.* Capit. xv. § 1.

⁴ A Cynic philosopher of Gadara. His Syrian compatriot, Lucian, the prince of mockers, was yet alive and mocking.

BOOK VI

as Antoninus, is Rome ; as a man, the world. The things then that are of advantage to these communities, these, and no other, are good for me.

45. All that befalls the Individual is to the interest of the Whole also.¹ So far, so good. But further careful observation will shew thee that, as a general rule, what is to the interest of one man is also to the interest of other men. But in this case the word *interest* must be taken in a more general sense as it applies to intermediate² things.

46. As the shows in the amphitheatre and such places grate upon thee³ as being an everlasting repetition of the same sight, and the similarity makes the spectacle pall, such must be the effect of the whole of life. For everything above and below is ever the same and the result of the same things. How long then ?

47. Never lose sight of the fact that men of all kinds, of all sorts of vocations and of every race under heaven, are dead ; and so carry thy thought down even to Philistion and Phoebus and Origanius. Now turn to the other tribes of men. We must pass at last to the same bourne whither so many wonderful orators have gone, so many grave philosophers, Heraclitus, Pythagoras, Socrates : so many heroes of old time, and so many warriors, so many tyrants of later days : and besides them, Eudoxus, Hipparchus, Archimedes, and other acute natures, men of large minds, lovers of toil, men of versatile powers, men of strong will, mockers, like Menippus⁴

cp. Luc. Pisc. 26, where the Scholiast (Arethas) refers to this passage. Diog. Laert. mentions a Meleager, the contemporary of Menippus, as a writer of similar character.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ον καὶ ἐφημέρου τῶν ἀνθρώπων ζωῆς χλευασταί, οἶον Μένιππος καὶ ὅσοι τοιοῦτοι. περὶ πάντων τούτων ἔννόει, ὅτι πάλαι κεῖνται. τί οὖν τοῦτο δεινὸν αὐτοῖς; τί δὰς τοῖς μηδ' ὄνομαζομένοις ὅλως; "Ἐν ὥδε πολλοῦ ἄξιον, τὸ μετ' ἀληθείας καὶ δικαιοσύνης εὔμενή τοῖς ψεύσταις καὶ ἀδίκοις διαβιοῦν.

μη'. "Οταν εὐφρᾶναι σεαυτὸν θέλης, ἐνθυμοῦ τὰ προτερήματα τῶν συμβιούντων· οἶον τοῦ μὲν τὸ δραστήριον, τοῦ δὲ τὸ αἰδῆμον, τοῦ δὲ τὸ εὐμετάδοτον, ἄλλου δὲ ἄλλο τι. οὐδὲν γὰρ οὕτως εὐφραίνει, ώς τὰ ὄμοιώματα τῶν ἀρετῶν ἐμφαινόμενα τοῖς ἥθεσι τῶν συζώντων καὶ ἀθρόα ώς οἶον τε συμπίπτοντα. διὸ καὶ πρόχειρα αὐτὰ ἔκτέον.

μθ'. Μήτι δυσχεραίνεις, ὅτι τοσῶνδέ τινων λιτρῶν εἴ καὶ οὐ τριακοσίων; οὗτω δὲ καὶ ὅτι μέχρι τοσῶνδε ἐτῶν βιωτέον σοι καὶ οὐ μέχρι πλείονος· ὥσπερ γὰρ τῆς οὐσίας ὅσον ἀφώρισταί σοι στέργεις, οὕτως καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ χρόνου.

ν'. Πειρῶ μὲν πείθειν αὐτούς, πρᾶττε δὲ καὶ ἀκόντων,¹ ὅταν τῆς δικαιοσύνης ὁ λόγος οὕτως ἄγῃ. ἐὰν μέντοι βίᾳ τις προσχρώμενος ἐνίστηται, μετάβαινε ἐπὶ τὸ εὐάρεστον καὶ ἄλυπον, καὶ συγχρῶ εἰς ἄλλην ἀρετὴν τῇ κωλύσει· καὶ μέμνησο, ὅτι μεθ' ὑπεξαιρέσεως ὡρμας, ὅτι καὶ τῶν ἀδυνάτων οὐκ ὡρέγον. τίνος οὖν;

¹ τῶν ἀκόντων P: αὐτῶν ἀκ. Menag.

BOOK VI

and many another such, of man's perishable and transitory life itself. About all these reflect that they have long since been in their graves. What terrible thing then is this for them? What pray for those whose very names are unknown? One thing on earth is worth much—to live out our lives in truth and justice, and in charity with liars and unjust men.

48. When thou wouldest cheer thine heart, think upon the good qualities of thy associates¹; as for instance, this one's energy, that one's modesty, the generosity of a third, and some other trait of a fourth. For nothing is so cheering as the images of the virtues mirrored in the characters of those who live with us, and presenting themselves in as great a throng as possible. Have these images then ever before thine eyes.

49. Thou art not aggrieved, art thou, at being so many pounds in weight and not three hundred? Then why be aggrieved if thou hast only so many years to live and no more? For as thou art contented with the amount of matter allotted thee, so be content also with the time.

50. Try persuasion first, but even though men would say thee nay, act when the principles of justice so direct. Should any one however withstand thee by force, take refuge in being well-content and unhurt, and utilize the obstacle for the display of some other virtue. Recollect that the impulse thou hadst was conditioned² by circumstances,³ and thine aim was not to do impossibilities. What then was it?

¹ But *cp.* v. 10. ² iv. 1; v. 20.

³ Lit. *was with a reservation*, i.e. "should circumstances allow." *cp.* iv. 1; viii. 41.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τῆς τοιάσδε τινος ὄρμῆς. τούτου δὲ τυγχάνεις·
ἔφ' οὶς προίχθημεν, ταῦτα γίνεται.

να'. Ὁ μὲν φιλόδοξος ἀλλοτρίαν ἐνέργειαν
ἴδιον ἀγαθὸν ὑπολαμβάνει, ὁ δὲ φιλήδονος ἴδιαν
πεῖσιν· ὁ δὲ νοῦν ἔχων ἴδιαν πρᾶξιν.

νβ'. Ἐξεστι περὶ τούτου μηδὲν ὑπολαμ-
βάνειν καὶ μὴ ὀχλεῖσθαι τῇ ψυχῇ· αὐτὰ γὰρ τὰ
πράγματα οὐκ ἔχει φύσιν ποιητικὴν τῶν ἡμετέρων
κρίσεων.

νγ'. Ἐθισον σεαυτὸν πρὸς τῷ ὑφ' ἔτέρου
λεγομένῳ γίνεσθαι ἀπαρενθυμήτως καὶ ὡς οἰόν
τε ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ τοῦ λέγοντος γίνουν.

νδ'. Τὸ τῷ σμήνει μὴ συμφέρον οὐδὲ τῇ
μελίσσῃ συμφέρει.

νε'. Εἰ κυβερνῶντα οἱ ναῦται ἡ ἰατρεύοντα
οἱ κάμνοντες κακῶς ἔλεγον, ἄλλῳ τινὶ ἀν
προσεῖχον¹ ἡ πῶς αὐτὸς ἐνεργοίη τὸ τοῖς ἐμπλέ-
οντι σωτήριον ἡ τὸ τοῖς θεραπευομένοις
ὑγιεινόν;

ντ'. Πόσοι, μεθ' ὧν εἰσῆλθον εἰς τὸν κόσμον,
ἥδη ἀπεληλύθασιν.

νζ'. Ἰκτεριώσι τὸ μέλι πικρὸν φαίνεται· καὶ
λυσσοδήκτοις τὸ ὕδωρ φοβερόν· καὶ παιδίοις τὸ
σφαιρίον καλόν. τί οὖν ὀργίζομαι; ἡ δοκεῖ σοι
ἔλασσον ἵσχυειν τὸ διεψευσμένον ἡ τὸ χόλιον τῷ
ἰκτεριώντι καὶ ὁ ἴὸς τῷ λυσσοδήκτῳ;

νη'. Κατὰ τὸν λόγον τῆς σῆς φύσεως βιοῦν σε

¹ If προσεῖχον is 1st pers. sing. we must with Richards
read ἐνεργοίην and understand ἐμὲ with κυβερνῶντα: πᾶς
ἄν τις Schenkl.

BOOK VI

To feel some such impulse as thou didst. In that thou art successful. That which alone was in the sphere of our choice¹ is realized.

51. The lover of glory conceives his own good to consist in another's action, the lover of pleasure in his own feelings, but the possessor of understanding in his own actions.

52. We need not form any opinion about the thing in question or be harassed in soul, for Nature gives the thing itself no power to compel our judgments.

53. Train thyself to pay careful attention to what is being said² by another and as far as possible enter into his soul.

54. That which is not in the interests of the hive cannot be in the interests of the bee.³

55. If the sailors spoke ill of a steersman or the sick of a physician, what else would they have in mind but how the man should best effect the safety of the crew or the health of his patients?

56. How many have already left the world who came into it with me!

57. To the jaundiced honey tastes bitter; and the victim of hydrophobia has a horror of water; and to little children their ball is a treasure. Why then angry? Or dost thou think that error is a less potent factor than bile in the jaundiced and virus in the victim of rabies?

58. From living according to the reason of thy nature no one can prevent thee: contrary to the

¹ Casaubon translates "that for which we were brought into the world," but can ποδγω mean this?

² Obviously no contradiction of iv. 18 etc. See also vii. 4. 30. ³ v. 22.

MARCUS AURELIUS

οὐδεὶς κωλύσει· παρὰ τὸν λόγον τῆς κοινῆς φύσεως οὐδέν σοι συμβήσεται.

νθ'. Οἱοί εἰσιν, οἵς θέλουσιν ἀρέσκειν, καὶ δι' οἴα περιγινόμενα, καὶ δι' οἶων ἐνεργειῶν. ὡς ταχέως ὁ αἰών πάντα· καλύψει· καὶ δσα ἐκάλυψεν ἥδη.

BOOK VI

reason of the Universal Nature nothing shall befall thee.

59. The persons men wish to please,¹ the objects they wish to gain, the means they employ—think of the character of all these! How soon will Time hide all things! How many a thing has it already hidden!

vii. 62.

To Here for Saturday

163
M 2

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ Ζ

α'. Τί ἐστὶ κακία; τοῦτ' ἔστιν, δὲ πολλάκις εἰδεῖς.
καὶ ἐπὶ παντὸς δὲ τοῦ συμβαίνοντος πρόχειρον
ἔχει, ὅτι τοῦτο ἔστιν, δὲ πολλάκις εἰδεῖς. ὅλως ἄνω
κάτω τὰ αὐτὰ εὐρήσεις, ὡν μεσταὶ αἱ ἴστορίαι αἱ
παλαιαὶ, αἱ μέσαι, αἱ ὑπόγυιοι· ὡν νῦν μεσταὶ αἱ
πόλεις καὶ <αἱ>¹ οἰκίαι. οὐδὲν καινόν· πάντα
καὶ συνήθη καὶ ὀλιγοχρόνια.

β'. Ἡ² τὰ δόγματα πῶς ἄλλως δύναται
νεκρωθῆναι, ἐὰν μὴ αἱ κατάλληλοι αὐτοῖς φαν-
τασίαι σβεσθῶσιν; ἂς διηνεκῶς ἀναζωπυρεῖν ἐπὶ³
σοὶ ἔστι. δύναμαι περὶ τούτου, δὲν, ὑπολαμβάν-
ειν· εἰ δὲ ἄρα³ δύναμαι, τί ταράσσομαι; τὰ
ἔξω τῆς ἐμῆς διανοίας οὐδὲν ὅλως πρὸς τὴν ἐμὴν
διάνοιαν. τοῦτο μάθε καὶ ὁρθὸς εἰ.

2 Ἀναβιῶναι σοι ἔξεστιν· ἵδε πάλιν τὰ πράγ-
ματα, ως ἐώρας· ἐν τούτῳ γὰρ τὸ ἀναβιῶναι.

γ'. Πομπῆς κενοσπουδία, ἐπὶ σκηνῆς δράματα,
ποίμνια, ἀγέλαι, διαδορατισμοί,⁴ κυνιδίοις ὀστάρ-
ιον ἐρριμένον, ψωμίον εἰς τὰς τῶν ἰχθύων δεξα-
μενάς, μυρμήκων ταλαιπωρίαι καὶ ἀχθοφορίαι,

¹ <αἱ> Cor.

² η A : η Schenkl : omit. P : πῶς γὰρ A omit. P : πῶς γε Schenkl. ³ γὰρ A : δ' ἄρα Schenkl.

⁴ After διαδορατισμοὶ Lofft ingeniously inserts τί εἰσι μοι;
τί ἔμοι; Schenkl.

BOOK VII

1. WHAT is vice? A familiar sight enough. So in everything that befalls have the thought ready: *This is a familiar sight.* Look up, look down, everywhere thou wilt find the same things, whereof histories ancient, medieval, and modern are full; and full of them at this day are cities and houses. There is no new thing under the sun.¹ Everything is stereotyped, everything fleeting.

2. How else can thy axioms be made dead than by the extinction of the ideas that answer to them? And these it lies with thee ever to kindle anew into flame. I am competent to form the true conception of a thing. If so, why am I harassed? What is outside the scope of my mind has absolutely no concern with my mind. Learn this lesson and thou standest erect.

Thou canst begin a new life! See but things afresh as thou usedst to see them; for in this consists the new life.

3. Empty love of pageantry, stage-plays, flocks and herds, sham-fights, a bone thrown to lap-dogs, crumbs cast in a fish-pond, painful travail of ants and their bearing of burdens, skurryings of scared little

¹ Eccles. i. 9. *cp.* also Justin's *Apol.* i. 57, addressed to Pius and Marcus.

MARCUS AURELIUS

μυιδίων ἐπτοημένων διαδρομαί, σιγιλλάρια νευροσπαστούμενα. χρὴ οὖν ἐν τούτοις εύμενῶς μὲν καὶ μὴ καταφρυατόμενον ἐστάναι· παρακολουθεῖν μέντοι, ὅτι τοσούτου ἄξιος ἔκαστος ἐστιν, ὅσου ἄξιά ἐστι ταῦτα, περὶ ἣ ἐσπούδακεν.

δ'. Δεῖ κατὰ λέξιν παρακολουθεῖν τοῖς λεγομένοις, καὶ καθ' ἔκάστην ὄρμὴν τοῖς γινομένοις. καὶ ἐπὶ μὲν τοῦ ἑτέρου εὐθὺς ὄραν, ἐπὶ τίνα σκοπὸν ἡ ἀναφορά· ἐπὶ δὲ τοῦ ἑτέρου παραφυλάσσειν, τί τὸ σημανόμενον.

ε'. Πότερον ἔξαρκεῖ ἡ διάνοιά μου πρὸς τοῦτο ἡ οὕ; εἰ μὲν ἔξαρκεῖ, χρῶμαι αὐτῇ πρὸς τὸ ἔργον, ώς ὄργανῳ παρὰ τῆς τῶν δλων φύσεως δοθέντι. εἰ δὲ μὴ ἔξαρκεῖ, ἥτοι παραχωρῷ τοῦ ἔργου τῷ δυναμένῳ κρείττον ἐπιτελέσαι, ἐὰν ἄλλως τοῦτο μὴ καθήκη, ἢ πράσσω, ώς δύναμαι, προσπαραλαβὼν τὸν δυνάμενον κατὰ πρόσχρησιν τοῦ ἐμοῦ ἡγεμονικοῦ ποιῆσαι τὸ εἰς τὴν κοινωνίαν νῦν καίριον καὶ χρήσιμον. ὅ τι γὰρ ἀν δι' ἐμαυτοῦ ἡ σὺν ἄλλῳ ποιῶ, ὧδε μόνον χρὴ συντείνειν, εἰς τὸ κοινῇ χρήσιμον καὶ εὐάρμοστον.

ζ'. "Οσοι μὲν πολυνύμητοι γενόμενοι ἥδη λήθη παραδέδονται· ὅσοι δὲ τούτους ὑμνήσαντες πάλαι ἐκποδών.

ζ'. Μὴ αἰσχύνου βοηθούμενος· πρόκειται γάρ σοι ἐνεργεῖν τὸ ἐπιβάλλον ώς στρατιώτη ἐν τειχομαχίᾳ. τί οὖν, ἐὰν σὺ μὲν χωλαίνων ἐπὶ τὴν ἔπαλξιν ἀναβῆναι μόνος μὴ δύνῃ, σὺν ἄλλῳ δὲ δυνατὸν ἡ τοῦτο;

¹ ii. 2 etc.

² cp. ix. 41 (Epicurus).

³ v. 16. cp. Dem. *Olynth.* iii. 32: *ἄττα γὰρ ἀν τὰ ἐπιτηδ-*

BOOK VII

mice, puppets moved by strings.¹ Amid such environment therefore thou must take thy place graciously and not ‘snorting defiance,’² nay thou must keep abreast of the fact that everyone is worth just so much as those things are worth in which he is interested.³

4. In conversation keep abreast of what is being said,⁴ and, in every effort, of what is being done. In the latter see from the first to what end it has reference, and in the former be careful to catch the meaning.

5. Is my mind competent for this or not? If competent, I apply it to the task as an instrument given me by the Universal Nature. If not competent, I either withdraw from the work in favour of someone who can accomplish it better, unless for other reasons duty forbids; or I do the best I can, taking to assist me any one that can utilize my ruling Reason to effect what is at the moment seasonable and useful for the common welfare. For in whatsoever I do either by myself or with another I must direct my energies to this alone, that it shall conduce to the common interest⁵ and be in harmony with it.

6. How many much-lauded heroes have already been given as a prey unto forgetfulness,⁶ and how many that lauded them have long ago disappeared!

7. Blush not to be helped⁷; for thou art bound to carry out the task that is laid upon thee as a soldier to storm the breach. What then, if for very lameness thou canst not mount the ramparts unaided, but canst do this with another's help?

εύματα τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἦ, τοιοῦτον ἀναγκή καὶ τὸ φρόνημα ἔχειν.
cp. Clem. Alex. Strom. iv. 23. ⁴ vi. 53. ⁵ iv. 12.

⁶ iii. 10; iv. 33; viii. 21. ⁷ x. 12. See saying of Marcus, Capit. xxii. 4, quoted below, p. 360.

MARCUS AURELIUS

η'. Τὰ μέλλοντα μὴ ταρασσέτω· ἥξεις γὰρ ἐπ' αὐτά, ἐὰν δεήσῃ, φέρων τὸν αὐτὸν λόγον, ὡς νῦν πρὸς τὰ παρόντα χρᾶ.

θ'. Πάντα ἀλλήλοις ἐπιπλέκεται καὶ ἡ σύνδεσις ἰερά, καὶ σχεδόν τι οὐδὲν ἀλλότριον ἄλλο ἄλλω. συγκατατέτακται γὰρ καὶ συγκοσμεῖ τὸν αὐτὸν κόσμον. κόσμος τε γὰρ εἰς ἔξ ἀπάντων, καὶ θεὸς εἰς διὰ πάντων, καὶ οὐσίᾳ μία, καὶ νόμος εἰς, λόγος κοινὸς πάντων τῶν νοερῶν ζώων, καὶ ἀλήθεια μία· εἴγε καὶ τελειότης μία τῶν ὁμογενῶν καὶ τοῦ αὐτοῦ λόγου μετεχόντων ζώων.

ι'. Πᾶν τὸ ἔνυλον ἔναφανίζεται τάχιστα τῇ τῶν ὅλων οὐσίᾳ· καὶ πᾶν αἴτιον εἰς τὸν τῶν ὅλων λόγον τάχιστα ἀναλαμβάνεται· καὶ παντὸς μνήμη τάχιστα ἐγκαταχώννυται τῷ αἰώνι.

ια'. Τῷ λογικῷ ζώῳ ἡ αὐτὴ πρᾶξις κατὰ φύσιν ἔστι καὶ κατὰ λόγουν.

ιβ'. Ὁρθὸς ἡ¹ ὄρθούμενος.

ιγ'. Ολόν ἔστιν ἐν ἡνωμένοις τὰ μέλη τοῦ σώματος, τοῦτον ἔχει τὸν λόγον ἐν διεστῶσι τὰ λογικὰ πρὸς μίαν τινὰ συνεργίαν κατεσκευασμένα. μᾶλλον δέ σοι ἡ τούτου νόσις προσπεσεῖται, ἐὰν πρὸς ἑαυτὸν πολλάκις λέγης, ὅτι 'μέλος' εἴμι τοῦ ἐκ τῶν λογικῶν συστήματος. ἐὰν δὲ [διὰ τοῦ ῥῶ στοιχείου] 'μέρος' εἶναι ἑαυτὸν λέγης, οὕπω ἀπὸ καρδίας φιλεῖς τοὺς ἀνθρώπους, οὕπω σε καταληκτικῶς² εὐφραίνει τὸ εὐεργετεῖν· ἔτι³ ὡς

¹ μὴ Cas.

² καταληκτικῶς ("assured delight") PA : em. Gat.

³ ἔτι εἰς A.

¹ vi. 38.

² iv. 45.

³ iv. 4.

⁴ ii. 12.

⁵ Sen. de Vit. Beat. 8.

BOOK VII

8. Be not disquieted about the future. If thou must come thither, thou wilt come armed with the same reason which thou appliest now to the present.

9. All things are mutually intertwined,¹ and the tie is sacred, and scarcely anything is alien the one to the other. For all things have been ranged side by side,² and together help to order one ordered Universe. For there is both one Universe, made up of all things, and one God immanent in all things, and one Substance, and one Law, one Reason common to all intelligent creatures,³ and one Truth, if indeed there is also one perfecting of living creatures that have the same origin and share the same reason.

10. A little while and all that is material is lost to sight in the Substance of the Universe,⁴ a little while and all Cause is taken back into the Reason of the Universe, a little while and the remembrance of everything is encairned in Eternity.

11. To the rational creature the same act is at once according to nature and according to reason.⁵

12. Upright, or made upright.⁶

13. The principle which obtains where limbs and body unite to form one organism, holds good also for rational things with their separate individualities, constituted as they are to work in conjunction. But the perception of this shall come more home to thee, if thou sayest to thyself, I am a *limb* of the organized body of rational things. But if [using the letter *R*] thou sayest thou art but a *part*,⁷ not yet dost thou love mankind from the heart, nor yet does well-doing delight thee for its own sake.⁸ Thou

⁶ cp. vii. 7; but see iii. 5.

⁷ The pun may be kept by *limb—rim*. ⁸ cp. iv. 20.

MARCUS AURELIUS

πρέπον αὐτὸν ψιλὸν ποιεῖς· οὕπω ὡς σαυτὸν εὐποιῶν.

ιδ'. Ο θέλει, ἔξωθεν προσπιπτέτω τοῖς παθεῖν ἐκ τῆς προσπτώσεως ταύτης δυναμένοις. ἐκεῖνα γάρ, ἐὰν θελήσῃ, μέμψεται τὰ παθόντα· ἐγὼ δέ, ἐὰν μὴ ὑπολάβω, ὅτι κακὸν τὸ συμβεβηκός, οὕπω βέβλαμμαι. ἔξεστι δέ μοι μὴ ὑπολαβεῖν.

ιε'. "Ο τι ἄν τις ποιῇ ή λέγῃ, ἐμὲ δεῖ ἀγαθὸν εἶναι· ὡς ἀν εἰ ὁ χρυσὸς ή ὁ σμάραγδος ή ἡ πορφύρα τοῦτο ἀεὶ ἔλεγεν, "Ο τι ἄν τις ποιῇ ή λέγῃ, ἐμὲ δεῖ σμάραγδον εἶναι καὶ τὸ ἐμαυτοῦ χρῶμα ἔχειν." .

ιι'. Τὰ ἡγεμονικὸν αὐτὸν ἔαυτῷ οὐκ ἐνοχλεῖ, οἷον λέγω, οὐ φορεῖ [†] ἔαυτὸν εἰς ἐπιθυμίαν. εἰ δέ τις ἄλλος αὐτὸν φοβήσαι ή λυπήσαι δύναται, ποιείτω. αὐτὸν γὰρ ἔαυτὸν ὑποληπτικῶς οὐ τρέψει εἰς τοιαύτας τροπάς.

Τὸ σωμάτιον μὴ πάθη τι, αὐτὸν μεριμνάτω, εἰ δύναται, καὶ λεγέτω, εἴ τι πάσχει· τὸ δὲ ψυχάριον, τὸ φοβούμενον, τὸ λυπούμενον, τὸ περὶ τουτων ὅλως ὑπολαμβάνον οὐδὲν μὴ πάθη· οὐ γὰρ ἔξις αὐτῷ [‡] εἰς κρίσιν τοιαύτην.

Απροσδεές ἐστιν, ὅσον ἐφ' ἔαυτῷ, τὸ ἡγεμονικόν, ἐὰν μὴ ἔαυτῷ ἔνδειαν ποιῇ· κατὰ ταύτα δὲ καὶ ἀτάραχον καὶ ἀνεμπόδιστον, ἐὰν μὴ ἔαυτὸν ταράσσῃ καὶ ἐμποδίζῃ.

ιζ'. Εὐδαιμονία ἐστὶ δαίμων ἀγαθὸς η <ἡγεμονικὸν>[§] ἀγαθόν. τί οὖν ὡδε ποιεῖς,

¹ φοβεῖ PA : σοβεῖ Schenkl : I suggest φορεῖ or τρέπει.

² ἔξεις αὐτὸν PA : ἔξις αὐτῷ Schenkl : ἔλξεις Schultz,

³ <ἡγεμονικὸν> Gat.

BOOK VII

dost practise it still as a bare duty, not yet as a boon to thyself.

14. Let any external thing, that will, be incident to whatever is able to feel this incidence. For that which feels can, if it please, complain.¹ But I, if I do not consider what has befallen me to be an evil,² am still unhurt. And I *can* refuse so to consider it.

15. Let any say or do what he will, I must for my part be good. So might the emerald—or gold or purple—never tire of repeating, *Whatever any one shall do or say, I must be an emerald and keep my colour.*

Poor These.

16. The ruling Reason is never the disturber of its own peace, never, for instance, hurries itself into lust. But if another can cause it fear or pain, let it do so. For it will not let its own assumptions lead it into such aberrations.

Let the body take thought for itself, if it may, that it suffer no hurt and, if it do so suffer, let it proclaim the fact.³ But the soul that has the faculty of fear, the faculty of pain, and alone can assume that these exist, can never suffer; for it is not given to making any such admission.⁴

In itself the ruling Reason wants for nothing unless it create its own needs, and in like manner nothing can disturb it, nothing impede it, unless the disturbance or impediment come from itself.

17. Well-being⁵ is a good Being, or a ruling Reason that is good. What then doest thou here,

¹ vii. 33; viii. 28 ² iv. 7, 39. ³ vii. 14, 33.

⁴ vi. 52; vii. 14, 33; viii. 40 etc.

⁵ Defined by Chrysippus as “harmony of our *δαίμον* with God’s will.”

MARCUS AURELIUS

ώ φαντασία ; ἀπέρχου, τοὺς θεούς σοι, ώς ἡλθεσ-
ού γὰρ χρήζω σου. ἐλήλυθας δὲ κατὰ τὸ
ἀρχαῖον ἔθος. οὐκ ὄργιζομαι σοι μόνον ἄπιθι.

ιη'. Φοβεῖται τις μεταβολὴν ; τί γὰρ δύναται
χωρὶς μεταβολῆς γενέσθαι; τί δὲ φίλτερον ἡ
οἰκειότερον τῇ τῶν ὅλων φύσει ; σὺ δὲ αὐτὸς
λούσασθαι δύνασαι, ἐὰν μὴ τὰ ξύλα μεταβάλῃ ;
τραφῆναι δὲ δύνασαι, ἐὰν μὴ τὰ ἐδώδιμα
μεταβάλῃ ; ἄλλο δέ τι τῶν χρησίμων δύναται
συντελεσθῆναι χωρὶς μεταβολῆς ; οὐχ ὄρᾶς οὖν,
ὅτι καὶ αὐτὸ τὸ σὲ μεταβαλεῖν ὅμοιόν ἔστι καὶ
ὅμοίως ἀναγκαῖον τῇ τῶν ὅλων φύσει ;

ιθ'. Διὰ τῆς τῶν ὅλων οὐσίας ώς διὰ χειμάρ-
ρου, διεκπορεύεται πάντα τὰ σώματα, τῷ ὅλῳ
συμφυῇ καὶ συνεργά, ώς τὰ ἡμέτερα μέρη ἀλλήλοις.

Πόσους ἥδη ὁ αἰών Χρυσίππους, πόσους
Σωκράτεις, πόσους Ἐπικτήτους καταπέπωκεν.
τὸ δὲ αὐτὸ καὶ ἐπὶ παντὸς οὐτινοσοῦν σοι
ἀνθρώπου τε καὶ πράγματος προσπιπτέω.

κ'. Ἐμὲ ἐν μόνον περισπᾷ, μή τι αὐτὸς
ποιήσω, δὴ κατασκευὴ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου οὐ θέλει, ἡ
ώς οὐ θέλει, ἡ δὲ νῦν οὐ θέλει.

κα'. Ἔγγὺς μὲν ἡ σὴ περὶ πάντων λήθη.
ἔγγὺς δὲ ἡ πάντων περὶ σοῦ λήθη.

κβ'. Ἰδιον ἀνθρώπου φιλεῖν καὶ τοὺς πταί-
οντας. τοῦτο δὲ γίνεται, ἐὰν συμπροσπίπτῃ σοι,

¹ vii. 29 ; cp. Ecclesiasticus, xxxvii. 3.

² iv. 43 ; v. 23 ; vi. 15.

³ Referred by some (see Zeller, *Stoics*, p. 158, Engl. trans.)
to the theory that at each cyclical regeneration of the world
the same persons and events repeat themselves. But see
x. 31.

⁴ Aul. Gellius ii. 18 speaks of Epict. as recently dead ;

BOOK VII

O Imagination?¹ Avaunt, in God's name, as thou camest, for I desire thee not! But thou art come according to thine ancient wont. I bear thee no malice; only depart from me!

18. Does a man shrink from change? Why, what can come into being save by change? What be nearer or dearer to the Nature of the Universe? Canst thou take a hot bath unless the wood for the furnace suffer a change? Couldst thou be fed, if thy food suffered no change, and can any of the needs of life be provided for apart from change? Seest thou not that a personal change is similar, and similarly necessary to the Nature of the Universe?

19. Through the universal Substance as through a rushing torrent² all bodies pass on their way, united with the Whole in nature and activity, as our members are with one another.

How many a Chrysippus,³ how many a Socrates, how many an Epictetus⁴ hath Time already devoured! Whatsoever man thou hast to do with and whatsoever thing, let the same thought strike thee.

20. I am concerned about one thing only, that I of myself do not what man's constitution does not will, or wills not now, or in a way that it wills not.

21. A little while and thou wilt have forgotten everything, a little while and everything will have forgotten thee.

22. It is a man's especial privilege⁵ to love even those who stumble. And this love follows as soon as

Them. *Or. v. p. 63 D.* implies that he was alive under the Antonines. Lucian, *adv. Ind.* 13 speaks of his earthenware lamp having been bought by an admirer for 3,000 drachmas.

⁵ Fronto, *ad Ver. ii. 2*: *Hominis maxime proprium ignoscere.* cp. St. Matt. v. 44; Dio 71. 26, § 2.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ὅτι καὶ συγγενεῖς καὶ δι' ἄγνοιαν καὶ ἀκοντες
ἀμαρτάνουσι, καὶ ως μετ' ὀλίγον ἀμφότεροι
τεθνήξεσθε, καὶ πρὸ πάντων, ὅτι οὐκ ἔβλαψέ σε·
οὐ γὰρ τὸ ἡγεμονικόν σου χεῖρον ἐποίησεν, ἢ
πρόσθεν ἦν.

κγ'. Ἡ τῶν ὅλων φύσις ἐκ τῆς ὅλης οὐσίας,
ώς κηροῦ, νῦν μὲν ἵππαριον ἔπλασε, συγχέασα δὲ
τοῦτο εἰς δευδρύφιον¹ συνεχρήσατο τῇ ὅλῃ αὐτοῦ,
εἴτα εἰς ἀνθρωπάριον, εἴτα εἰς ἄλλο τι· ἔκαστον
δὲ τούτων πρὸς ὀλίγιστον ὑπέστη. δεινὸν δὲ
οὐδὲν τὸ διαλυθῆναι τῷ κιβωτίῳ, ὥσπερ οὐδὲ τὸ
συμπαγῆναι.²

κδ'. Τὸ ἐπίκοτον τοῦ προσώπου λίαν παρὰ
φύσιν, <δ> ὅταν πολλάκις † ἐνῇ, ἀποθνήσκει δὴ
πρόσχημα,³ ἢ τὸ τελευταῖον ἀπεσβέσθη, ὥστε
ὅλως ἔξαφθῆναι μὴ δύνασθαι. αὐτῷ γε τούτῳ
παρακολουθεῖν πειρῶ, ὅτι παρὰ τὸν λόγον. εἰ
γὰρ καὶ ἡ συναίσθησις τοῦ ἀμαρτάνειν οἰχήσεται,
τίς ἔτι τοῦ ζῆν αἰτία;

κε'. Πάντα, ὅσα ὁρᾶς, ὅσον οὕπω μεταβαλεῖ
ἡ τὰ ὅλα διοικοῦσα φύσις, καὶ ἄλλα ἐκ τῆς οὐσίας
αὐτῶν ποιήσει, καὶ πάλιν ἄλλα ἐκ τῆς ἐκείνων
οὐσίας, ἵνα ἀεὶ νεαρὸς ἢ ὁ κόσμος.

κς'. "Οταν τις ἀμάρτη τι εἰς σέ, εὐθὺς ἐνθυμοῦ,
τί ἀγαθὸν ἢ κακὸν ὑπολαβὼν ἥμαρτεν. τοῦτο γὰρ
ἰδὼν ἐλεήσεις αὐτόν, καὶ οὔτε θαυμάσεις, οὔτε

¹ δένδρου φύσιν PA : δευδρύφιον Nauck.

² <ἄγαθὸν> after συμπαγῆναι Kronenberg.

³ ὅταν πολλάκις ἐναποθνήσκειν ἢ πρόσχημα PA : θεεν πολλάκις
ἐναποθνήσκει τὸ πρόσχημα Fournier : I have patched up this
incurable passage, as above. Possibly ἢδη would be better
than δῆ.

BOOK VII

thou reflectest that they are of kin to thee and that they do wrong involuntarily and through ignorance,¹ and that within a little while both they and thou will be dead²; and this, above all, that the man has done thee no hurt³; for he has not made thy ruling Reason worse than it was before.

23. The Nature of the Whole out of the Substance of the Whole,⁴ as out of wax, moulds at one time a horse, and breaking up the mould kneads the material up again into a tree, then into a man, and then into something else; and every one of these subsists but for a moment. It is no more a hardship for the coffer to be broken up than it was for it to be fitted together.

24. An angry scowl on the face is beyond measure unnatural, and when it is often seen there, all comeliness begins at once to die away, or in the end is so utterly extinguished that it can never be rekindled at all. From this very fact try to reach the conclusion that it is contrary to reason. The consciousness of wrong-doing once lost, what motive is left for living any more?

25. Everything that thou seest will the Nature that controls the Universe change, no one knows how soon, and out of its substance make other compounds,⁵ and again others out of theirs, that the world may ever renew its youth.

26. Does a man do thee wrong? Go to and mark what notion of good and evil was his that did the wrong. Once perceive that and thou wilt feel

¹ cp. St. Luke xxiii. 34.

² iv. 6. ³ ii. 1; ix. 38.

⁴ vii. 25. cp. St. Paul, Rom. ix. 20. ⁵ vii. 23.

MARCUS AURELIUS

όργισθήσῃ. ἥτοι γὰρ καὶ αὐτὸς τὸ αὐτὸ δέκείνῳ ἀγαθὸν ἔτι ὑπολαμβάνεις ἡ ἄλλο ὁμοειδές. δεῖ οὖν συγγινώσκειν. εἰ δὲ μηκέτι ὑπολαμβάνεις τὰ τοιαῦτα ἀγαθὰ καὶ κακά, ρᾶον εὔμενῆς ἐση τῷ παρορῶντι.

κζ'. Μὴ τὰ ἀπόντα ἐννοεῖν, ὡς ἡδη¹ ὄντα· ἀλλὰ τῶν παρόντων τὰ δεξιώτατα ἐκλογίζεσθαι καὶ τούτων χάριν ὑπομιμήσκεσθαι, πῶς ἀν ἐπεξητεῖτο, εἰ μὴ παρῆν. ἅμα μέντοι φυλάσσου, μὴ διὰ τοῦ οὗτως ἀσμενίζειν αὐτοῖς ἐθίσης ἐκτιμᾶν αὐτά, ὕστε, ἐάν ποτε μὴ παρῇ, ταραχθήσεσθαι.

κη'. Εἰς σαυτὸν συνειλοῦ. φυσιν ἔχει τὸ λογικὸν ἡγεμονικόν, ἑαυτῷ ἀρκεῖσθαι δικαιοπραγοῦντι καὶ παρ' αὐτὸ τοῦτο γαλήνην ἔχοντι.

κθ'. ἐξάλειψον τὴν φαντασίαν. στῆσον τὴν νευροσπαστίαν. περίγραψον τὸ ἐνεστῶς τοῦ χρόνου. γνώρισον τὸ συμβαῖνον ἡ σοὶ ἡ ἄλλῳ. δίελε καὶ μέρισον τὸ ὑποκείμενον εἰς τὸ αἰτιώδες καὶ ὑλικόν. ἐννόησον τὴν ἐσχάτην ὕραν. τὸ ἐκείνῳ ἀμαρτηθὲν ἐκεῖ κατάλιπε, ὅπου ἡ ἀμαρτία ὑπέστη.

λ'. Συμπαρεκτείνειν τὴν νόησιν τοῖς λεγομένοις. εἰσδύεσθαι τὸν νοῦν εἰς τὰ γινόμενα καὶ ποιοῦντα.

λα'. Φαιδρυνον σεαυτὸν ἀπλότητι καὶ αἰδοῖ καὶ τῇ πρὸς τὸ ἀνὰ μέσον ἀρετῆς καὶ κακίας ἀδιαφορίᾳ. φίλησον τὸ ἀνθρώπινον γένος. ἀκολ-

¹ ἡδέα (ἡδίω Rend.) Schultz.

² cp. ii. 13; x. 30; Herodian i. 4, § 2; Dio 71. 10, § 4.

³ xi. 18, § 4. ⁴ Epict. Frag. 129. ⁵ cp. Hor. Ep. i. 10, 31.

⁶ iv. 3 ad init.; viii. 48. ⁷ vii. 17; viii. 29; ix. 7.

BOOK VII

compassion¹ not surprise or anger. For thou hast still thyself either the same notion of good and evil as he or another not unlike. Thou needs must forgive him then.² But if thy notions of good and evil are no longer such, all the more easily shalt thou be gracious to him that sees awry.

27. Dream not of that which thou hast not as though already thine, but of what thou hast pick out the choicest blessings, and do not forget in respect of them how eagerly thou wouldst have coveted them, had they not been thine.³ Albeit beware that thou do not inure thyself, by reason of this thy delight in them, to prize them so highly as to be distressed if at any time they are lost to thee.⁴

28. Gather thyself into thyself.⁵ It is characteristic of the rational Ruling Faculty to be satisfied with its own righteous dealing and the peace which that brings.

29. Efface imagination!⁶ Cease to be pulled as a puppet by thy passions.⁷ Isolate the present. Recognize what befalls either thee or another. Dissect and analyze all that comes under thy ken into the Causal and the Material. Meditate on thy last hour.⁸ Let the wrong thy neighbour does thee rest with him that did the wrong.⁹

30. Do thy utmost to keep up with what is said.¹⁰ Let thy mind enter into the things that are done and the things that are doing them.

31. Make thy face to shine with simplicity and modesty and disregard of all that lies between virtue and vice. Love human-kind. Follow God.¹¹ Says

⁷ ii. 2 etc. ⁸ ii. 5. ⁹ ix. 20, 38. ¹⁰ vii. 4.

¹¹ 1 St. Peter, ii. 17. cp. Sen. *de Vit. Beat.* 15 : *Deum sequere.*
Dio Chrys. ii. 98 R.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ούθησον θεῷ. ἐκεῖνος μέν φησιν, ὅτι “πάντα νομιστί, τέτεῇ¹ δὲ μόνατ² τὰ στοιχεῖα.” ἀρκεῖ δὲ μεμνῆσθαι, ὅτι τὰ πάντα νομιστὶ ἔχει. ἥδη λίαν δλίγα.†

λβ'. Περὶ θανάτου· ἡ σκεδασμός, εἰ. ἄτομοι· ἡ <εἰ> ἔνωσις,³ ἥτοι σβέσις ἡ μετάστασις.

λγ'. Περὶ πόνου· “τὸ μὲν ἀφόρητον ἔξαγει· τὸ δὲ χρονίζον, φορητόν.” καὶ ἡ διάνοια τὴν ἑαυτῆς γαλήνην κατὰ ἀπόληψιν διατηρεῖ, καὶ οὐ χεῖρον τὸ ἡγεμονικὸν γέγονεν. τὰ δὲ κακούμενα μέρη ὑπὸ τοῦ πόνου, εἴ τι δύναται, περὶ αὐτοῦ ἀποφηνάσθω.

λδ'. Περὶ δόξης· ἵδε τὰς διανοίας αὐτῶν, οἵαι, καὶ οīα μὲν φεύγουσαι, οīα δὲ διώκουσαι. καὶ ὅτι, ώς αἱ θῦνες ἄλλαι ἐπ' ἄλλαις ἐπιφορούμεναι κρύπτουσι τὰς προτέρας, οὕτως ἐν τῷ βίῳ τὰ πρότερα ὑπὸ τῶν ἐπενεχθέντων τάχιστα ἐκαλύφθη.

λε'. [Πλατωνικόν.]⁴ “*Ηι οὖν ὑπάρχει διανοίᾳ μεγαλοπρέπεια καὶ θεωρία παντὸς μὲν χρόνου, πάσης δὲ οὐσίας, ἀρα οīει τούτῳ μέγα τι δοκεῖν εἶναι τὸν ἀνθρώπινον βίον; ἀδύνατον, ἡ δ' ὅς. οὐκοῦν καὶ θάνατον οὐ δεινόν τι ἡγήσεται ὁ τοιοῦτος; ἥκιστά γε.”

¹ ἐτεῇ Usener: ἐτὶ εὶ P: ἐτὶ ἡ A.

² δαίμονα PA: δὲ μόνα Cor.: δαιμόνια Xyl.

³ εὶ ἔνωσις Cas., Schenkl: ἡ PA: κένωσις P.

⁴ <Πλατωνικὸν> P: so <'Αντισθενικὸν> § 36, and <Πλατωνικὰ> § 44.

BOOK VII

the Sage: *All things by Law, but in very truth only elements.* And it suffices to remember that all things are by law: there thou hast it briefly enough.¹

32. OF DEATH: Either dispersion if atoms; or, if a single Whole, either extinction or a change of state.²

33. OF PAIN: *When unbearable it destroys us, when lasting, it is bearable,*³ and the mind safeguards its own calm by withdrawing itself, and the ruling Reason takes no hurt. As to the parts that are impaired by the pain, let them say their say about it as they can.⁴

34. OF GLORY: Look at the minds of its votaries, their characteristics, ambitions, antipathies.⁵ Remember too that, as the sands of the sea drifting one upon the other bury the earlier deposits, so in life the earlier things are very soon hidden under what comes after.

35. [From Plato.]⁶ *Dost thou think that the life of man can seem any great matter to him who has true grandeur of soul and a comprehensive outlook on all Time and all Substance? "It cannot seem so," said he. Will such a man then deem death a terrible thing? "Not in the least."*

¹ The reading and meaning are uncertain. The Sage is Democritus, and we should expect *atoms* rather than *elements* to be mentioned. Leopold aptly quotes Sext. Emp. vii. 35: *νόμῳ γλυκὺ καὶ νόμῳ πικρόν, νόμῳ θερμὸν νόμῳ ψυχρόν . . . ἐτεῇ δὲ ἄπομα καὶ κένον.* Fournier cleverly makes a hexameter of the words *πάντα νομίστ', ἐτεῇ δὲ μόνα στοιχεῖα <κένον τε>*.

² Sen. *Ep. 65 ad fin.*: *Mors aut finis aut transitus.*

³ vii. 16, 64. *cp. Aesch. Frag. 310: θάρσει πόνου γὰρ ἄκρον οὐκ ἔχει χρόνον;* Diog. Laert. *Epicurus* xxxi. 4.

⁴ vii. 14; viii. 40.

⁵ vi. 59.

⁶ Rep. 486 A.

MARCUS AURELIUS

λς'. [Αντισθενικόν.] “Βασιλικὸν μὲν εὖ πράττειν, κακῶς δὲ ἀκούειν.”

λξ'. Αἰσχρόν ἐστι τὸ μὲν πρόσωπον ὑπήκοον εἶναι καὶ σχηματίζεσθαι καὶ κατακοσμεῖσθαι, ώς κελεύει ἡ διάνοια, αὐτὴν δὲ ὑφ' ἑαυτῆς μὴ σχηματίζεσθαι καὶ κατακοσμεῖσθαι.

λη'. “Τοῖς πράγμασιν γὰρ οὐχὶ θυμοῦσθαι χρεών·

μέλει γὰρ αὐτοῖς οὐδέν.”

λθ'. “Αθανάτοις τε θεοῖς καὶ ἡμῖν χάρματα δοίης.”

μ'. “Βίον θερίζειν, ὥστε κάρπιμον στάχυν, καὶ τὸν μὲν εἶναι, τὸν δὲ μή.”

μα'. “Εἰ δὲ ἡμελήθην ἐκ θεῶν καὶ παῖδες ἐμώ, ἔχει λόγον καὶ τοῦτο.”

μβ'. “Τὸ γὰρ εὖ μετ' ἐμοῦ καὶ τὸ δίκαιον.”

μγ'. “Μὴ συνεπιθρηνεῖν, μὴ σφύζειν.”

μδ'. [Πλατωνικά.] “Ἐγὼ δὲ τούτῳ δίκαιον ἀν λόγον ἀντείποιμι· ὅτι οὐ καλῶς λέγεις, ω ἄνθρωπε, εἰ οἴει δεῖν κίνδυνον ὑπολογίζεσθαι τοῦ ζῆν ἡ τεθνάναι ἄνδρα, ὅτου τι καὶ σμικρὸν ὅφελος· ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐκεῖνο μόνον σκοπεῖν, ὅταν πράττῃ, πότερον δίκαια ἡ ἄδικα πράττει καὶ ἄνδρος ἀγαθοῦ <ἔργα>¹ ἡ κακοῦ.”

με'. “Οὕτω γὰρ ἔχει, ω ἄνδρες Ἀθηναῖοι, τῇ ἀληθείᾳ· οὐ ἀν τις αὐτὸν τάξῃ ἡγησάμενος

¹ <ἔργα> from Plato, Gatt.: so δεῖ below.

¹ cp. Epict. iv. 6, § 20; 1 St. Peter, ii. 20. See Diog. Laert. *Antisthenes* § 4. Plutarch attributes the saying to Alexander.

² vii. 60.

³ Eur. *Bellerophon*, Frag. 289; xi. 6. Twice quoted by Plutarch.

⁴ Unknown.

BOOK VII

36. [From Antisthenes.] '*Tis royal to do well and be ill spoken of.¹*

37. It is a shame that while the countenance² is subject to the mind, taking its cast and livery from it, the mind cannot take its cast and its livery from itself.

38. *It nought availeth to be wroth with things,
For they reck not of it.³*

39. *Unto the deathless Gods and to us give cause for rejoicing.⁴*

40. *Our lives are reaped like the ripe ears of corn,
And as one falls, another still is born.⁵*

41. *Though me and both my sons the Gods have spurned,
For this too there is reason.⁶*

42. *For justice and good luck shall bide with me.⁷*

43. *No chorus of loud dirges, no hysteria.⁸*

44. [Citations from Plato]:

I might fairly answer such a questioner: Thou art mistaken if thou thinkest that a man, who is worth anything at all, ought to let considerations of life and death weigh with him rather than in all that he does consider but this, whether it is just or unjust and the work of a good man or a bad.⁹

45. *This, O men of Athens, is the true state of the case: Wherever a man has stationed himself, deeming*

⁵ Eur. *Hypsipyle*, Frag. 757; xi. 6. Cic. *Tusc.* iii. 25, § 59. *Vita omnibus metenda, ut fruges.* Epict. ii. 6. 14. cp. Job v. 26.

⁶ Eur. *Antiope*, Frag. 207; xi. 6.

⁷ sc. σύμμαχον έσται Eur. *Frag.* 910. Twice quoted by Cicero (*ad Att.* vi. 1, § 8; viii. 8, § 2). cp. Arist *Ach.* 681.

⁸ Unknown.

⁹ Plato, *Apol.* 28 B. Socrates is answering a question whether he is not ashamed of risking his life in a vocation such as his.

MARCUS AURELIUS

βέλτιστον είναι ή ὑπ' ἄρχοντος ταχθῆ, ἐνταῦθα
<δεῖ>, ώς ἐμοὶ δοκεῖ, μένοντα κινδυνεύειν, μηδὲν
ὑπολογιζόμενον μήτε θάνατον μήτε ἄλλο μηδὲν
πρὸ τοῦ αἰσχροῦ."

μ⁵. "Αλλ', ω μακάριε, ὅρα, μὴ ἄλλο τι τὸ
γενναῖον καὶ τὸ ἀγαθὸν ἢ τὸ σώζειν τε καὶ
σώζεσθαι· μὴ γὰρ τοῦτο μέν, τὸ ζῆν ὁ ποσονδὴ
χρόνον, τόν γε ως ἀληθῶς ἄνδρα, ἔατέον ἐστί, καὶ
οὐ φιλοψυχητέον, ἄλλ' ἐπιτρέψαντα περὶ τούτων
τῷ θεῷ καὶ πιστεύσαντα ταῖς γυναιξίν, ὅτι· τὴν
εἰμαρμένην οὐδ' ἀν εἰς ἐκφύγοι,³ τὸ ἐπὶ τούτῳ
σκεπτέον, τίνα ἀν τρόπου τοῦτον, δν μέλλει
χρόνον βιώναι, ως ἄριστα βιώῃ."

μ⁵. Περισκοπεῖν ἀστρων δρόμους ὕσπερ
συμπεριθέοντα· καὶ τὰς τῶν στοιχείων εἰς
ἄλληλα μεταβολὰς συνεχῶς ἐννοεῖν· ἀποκαθαίρ-
ουσι γὰρ αἱ τούτων φαντασίαι τὸν ῥύπον τοῦ
χαμαὶ βίου.

μ⁷. Καλὸν τὸ τοῦ Πλάτωνος. καὶ δὴ περὶ
ἀνθρώπων τοὺς λόγους ποιούμενον ἐπισκοπεῖν
δεῖ καὶ τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὕσπερ ποθὲν ἄνωθεν, κατὰ¹
ἀγέλας, στρατεύματα, γεώργια, γάμους, δια-
λύσεις, γενέσεις, θανάτους, δικαστηρίων θόρυβον,
ἐρήμους χώρας, βαρβάρων ἔθνη ποικίλα, ἑορτάς,
θρήνους, ἀγοράς, τὸ παμμιγὲς καὶ τὸ ἐκ τῶν
ἐναντίων συγκοσμούμενον.

μ⁸. Τὰ προγεγούότα ἀναθεωρεῖν, τὰς τοσ-

¹ κάτω Cas.

¹ Plato, *Apol.* 28 E. ² Plato, *Gorgias*, 512 DE.

³ What follows is obviously not a saying of Plato. We must therefore refer back to what precedes, or suppose that Plato's words have dropped out.

BOOK VII

it the best for him, or has been stationed by his commander, there methinks he ought to stay and run every risk, taking into account neither death nor any thing else save dishonour.¹

46. But, my good sir, see whether nobility and goodness do not mean something other than to save and be saved; for surely a man worthy of the name must waive aside the question of the duration of life however extended, and must not cling basely to life, but leaving these things in the hands of God pin his faith to the women's adage, 'his destiny no man can flee,' and thereafter consider in what way he may best live for such time as he has to live.²

47. Watch the stars in their courses as one that runneth about with them therein; and think constantly upon the reciprocal changes of the elements, for thoughts on these things cleanse away the mire of our earthly life.

48. Noble is this saying of Plato's.³ Moreover he who discourses of men should, as if from some vantage-point⁴ above, take a bird's-eye view of the things of earth, in its gatherings,⁵ armies, husbandry, its marriages and separations,⁶ its births and deaths, the din of the law-court and the silence of the desert, barbarous races manifold, its feasts and mournings and markets, the medley of it all and its orderly conjunction of contraries.

49. Pass in review the far-off things of the past

⁴ ix. 30. *cp.* Lucian, *Char.* § 15; *Icaro-Men.* § 12.

⁵ If κατὰ ἀγέλας be read, it will mean literally, *drove by drove*, i.e. *in its aggregations*; if κάτω, ἀγέλας, the latter word must refer to gatherings of men.

⁶ This might mean *treaties of peace*, but there seems to be a system of contrasted pairs.

MARCUS AURELIUS

αύτας τῶν ἡγεμὸνιῶν μεταβολάς.¹ ἔξεστι καὶ τὰ ἐσόμενα προεφορᾶν. ὅμοειδῆ γὰρ πάντως ἔσται, καὶ οὐχ οἰόν τε ἐκβῆναι τοῦ ῥυθμοῦ τῶν νῦν γινομένων ὅθεν καὶ ἵσον τὸ τεσσαράκοντα ἔτεσιν ἴστορῆσαι τὸν ἀνθρώπινον βίον τῷ ἐπὶ ἔτη μύρια. τί γὰρ πλέον ὅψει;

ν'. “Καὶ τὰ μὲν ἐκ γῆς
φύντ' εἰς γαῖαν, τὰ δ' ἀπ' αἰθερίου
βλαστόντα γονῆς εἰς οὐράνιον
πόλον ἡλθε πάλιν.”

ἢ τοῦτο διάλυσις τῶν ἐν ταῖς ἀτόμοις ἀντεμπλοκῶν καὶ τοιοῦτός τις σκορπισμὸς τῶν ἀπαθῶν στοιχείων.

να'. Καὶ

“Σίτοισι καὶ ποτοῦσι καὶ μαγεύμασι
παρεκτρέποντες ὁχετόν, ὥστε μὴ θανεῖν.”

2 “Θεόθεν δὲ πνέοντ' οὐρον ἀνάγκη
τλῆναι καμάτοις ἀνοδύρτοις.”

νβ'.² “Καββαλικώτερος,” ἀλλ’ οὐχὶ κοινωνικώτερος οὐδὲ αἰδημονέστερος οὐδ’ εὐτακτότερος ἐπὶ τοῖς συμβαίνουσιν οὐδὲ εὐμενέστερος πρὸς τὰ τῶν πλησίον παροράματα.

νγ'. “Οπου ἔργον ἐπιτελεῖσθαι δύναται κατὰ τὸν κοινὸν θεοῖς καὶ ἀνθρώποις λόγον, ἐκεῖ οὐδὲν δεινόν· ὅπου γὰρ ὠφελείας τυχεῖν ἔξεστι διὰ τῆς

¹ τὰς . . . μεταβολὰς seems out of place, and Jackson would put the words after ποικίλα, in previous section.

² Here P has a note, οὐκ ἔστιν ἀρχὴ τοῦτο, ἀλλ' <ἐκ> τῶν ἀνωτέρω τῶν πρὸ τῶν Πλατονικῶν συναφές.

BOOK VII

and its succession of sovrainties without number. Thou canst look forward and see the future also. For it will most surely be of the same character,¹ and it cannot but carry on the rhythm of existing things. Consequently it is all one, whether we witness human life for forty years or ten thousand. For what more shalt thou see?

50. *All that is earth-born gravitates earthwards,
Dust unto dust ; and all that from ether
Grows, speeds swiftly back again heavenward ;*²

that is, either there is a breaking up of the closely-linked atoms or, what is much the same, a scattering of the impassive elements.

51. Again :

*With meats and drinks and curious sorceries
Side-track the stream, so be they may not die.³
When a storm from the Gods beats down on our
bark,
At our oars then we needs must toil and complain
not.*⁴

52. *Better at the cross-buttock,*⁵ may be, but not at shewing public spirit or modesty, or being readier for every contingency or more gracious to our neighbour if he sees awry.

53. A work that can be accomplished in obedience to that reason which we share with the Gods is attended with no fear. For no harm need be anticipated, where by an activity that follows the

¹ vi. 37.

² Eur. *Chrys.* Frag. 836. Constantly quoted. *cp.* Lucr. ii. 991 ; Genesis iii. 19 : γῆ εἶ καὶ ἐσ γῆν ἀπελεύση ; Ecclesiasticus xl. 11.

³ Eur. *Suppl.* 1110.

⁴ Unknown.

⁵ Plutarch, *Apophth.* 2. 206 E.

MARCUS AURELIUS

εύοδούσης καὶ κατὰ τὴν κατασκευὴν προιούσης ἐνεργείας, ἐκεῖ οὐδεμίαν βλάβην ὑφορατέον.

νδ'. Πανταχοῦ καὶ διηνεκῶς ἐπὶ σοὶ ἔστι καὶ τῇ παρούσῃ συμβάσει θεοσεβῶς εὐαρεστεῖν, καὶ τοῖς παροῦσιν ἀνθρώποις κατὰ δικαιοσύνην προσφέρεσθαι, καὶ τῇ παρούσῃ φαντασίᾳ ἐμφιλοτεχνεῖν, ἵνα μή τι ἀκατάληπτον παρεισρυῇ.

νε'. Μὴ περιβλέπου ἀλλότρια ἡγεμονικά, ἀλλ' ἐκεῖ βλέπε κατ' εὐθύ, ἐπὶ τί σε ἡ φύσις ὁδηγεῖν, ἢ τε τοῦ ὅλου διὰ τῶν συμβαινόντων σοι καὶ ἡ σὴ διὰ τῶν πρακτέων ὑπὸ σοῦ. πρακτέον δὲ ἐκάστῳ τῷ ἔξῆς τῇ κατασκευῇ· κατεσκεύασται δὲ τὰ μὲν λοιπὰ τῶν λογικῶν ἔνεκεν, ὥσπερ καὶ ἐπὶ παντὸς ἄλλου τὰ χείρω τῶν κρειττόνων ἔνεκεν, τὰ δὲ λογικὰ ἀλλήλων ἔνεκεν.

2 Τὸ μὲν οὖν προηγούμενον ἐν τῇ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου κατασκευῇ τὸ κοινωνικόν ἔστι· δεύτερον δὲ τὸ ἀνένδοτον πρὸς τὰς σωματικὰς πείσεις· λογικῆς γὰρ καὶ νοερᾶς κινήσεως ἴδιον περιορίζειν ἔαυτὴν καὶ μήποτε ἡττᾶσθαι μήτε αἰσθητικῆς μήτε ὄρμητικῆς κινήσεως· ζωφόδεις γὰρ ἐκάτεραι· ἡ δὲ νοερὰ ἐθέλει πρωτιστεύειν καὶ μὴ κατακρατεῖσθαι ὑπὸ ἐκείνων. δικαίως γε· πέφυκε γὰρ χρηστικὴ πᾶσιν ἐκείνοις. τρίτον ἐν τῇ λογικῇ κατασκευῇ τὸ ἀπρόπτωτον καὶ ἀνεξαπάτητον. τούτων οὖν ἔχόμενον τὸ ἡγεμονικὸν εὐθεῖαν¹ περαινέτω, καὶ ἔχει τὰ ἔαυτοῦ.

ντ'. 'Ως ἀποτεθνηκότα δεῖ, καὶ μέχρι νῦν

¹ εὐθεῖᾳ Schenkl: εὐθέα PA: εὐθεῖαν Cor. (cp. x. 11).

BOOK VII

right road, and satisfies the demands of our constitution, we can ensure our own weal.

54. At all times and in all places it rests with thee both to be content with thy present lot as a worshipper of the Gods, and to deal righteously with thy present neighbours, and to labour lovingly at thy present thoughts, that nothing unverified should steal into them.

55. Look not about thee at the ruling Reason of others, but look with straight eyes at this, *To what is Nature guiding thee?*—both the Nature of the Universe, by means of what befalls thee and thy nature by means of the acts thou hast to do. But everyone must do what follows from his own constitution; and all other things have been constituted for the sake of rational beings—just as in every other case the lower are for the sake of the higher¹—but the rational for their own sake.

Social obligation then is the leading feature in the constitution of man and, coming second to it, an uncompromising resistance to bodily inclinations. For it is the privilege of a rational and intelligent motion to isolate itself, and never to be overcome by the motions of sense or desire; for either kind is animal-like. But the motion of the Intelligence claims ever to have the pre-eminence and never to be mastered by them. And rightly so, for it is its nature to put all those to its own use. Thirdly, the rational constitution is free from precipitancy and cannot be misled. Let the ruling Reason then, clinging to these characteristics, accomplish a straight course and then it comes into its own.

56. As one that is dead, and his life till now lived

¹ v. 16, 30; xi. 10.

MARCUS AURELIUS

βεβιωκότα,¹ τὸ λοιπὸν ἐκ τοῦ περιόντος ξῆσαι κατὰ τὴν φύσιν.

νῦ. Μόνου φιλεῖν τὸ ἑαυτῷ συμβαῖνον καὶ συγκλωθόμενον. τί γὰρ ἀρμοδιώτερον;

νη'. Ἐφ' ἑκάστου συμβάματος ἐκείνους πρὸ δύμάτων ἔχειν, οἷς τὰ αὐτὰ συνέβαινεν, ἔπειτα ἥχθοντο, ἔξεινίζοντο, ἐμέμφοντο· νῦν οὖν ἐκείνοι ποῦ; οὐδαμοῦ· τί οὖν; καὶ σὺ θέλεις ὄμοιῶς; οὐχὶ δὲ τὰς μὲν ἀλλοτρίας τροπὰς καταλιπεῖν τοῖς τρέπουσι καὶ τρεπομένοις; αὐτὸς δὲ περὶ τὸ πῶς χρῆσθαι αὐτοῖς ὅλος γίνεσθαι; χρήσῃ γὰρ καλῶς, καὶ ὅλη σου ἔσται· μόνον πρόσεχε καὶ θέλε σεαυτῷ καλὸς² εἶναι ἐπὶ παντός, οὐ πράσσεις· καὶ μέμνησο ^{<ἐπ'}³ ἀμφοτέρων, ὅτι καὶ διάφορον ἐφ' οὐ νή πρᾶξις.

νθ'. Ἐνδον σκέπε.⁴ ἔνδον νή πηγὴ τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ καὶ ἀεὶ ἀναβλύειν δυναμένη, ἐὰν ἀεὶ σκάπτης.

ξ'. Δεῖ καὶ τὸ σῶμα πεπηγέναι καὶ μὴ διερρῆφθαι μήτε ἐν κινήσει μήτε ἐν σχέσει. οἷον γάρ τι ἐπὶ τοῦ προσώπου παρέχεται ἡ διάνοια, συνετὸν⁵ αὐτὸς καὶ εὔσχημον συντηροῦσα,⁶ τοιοῦτο καὶ ἐπὶ ὅλου τοῦ σώματος ἀπαιτητέον. πάντα δὲ ταῦτα σὺν τῷ ἀνεπιτηδεύτῳ φυλακτέα.

ξα'. Ἡ βιωτικὴ τῇ παλαιστικῇ ὁμοιοτέρα ἥπερ τῇ ὀρχηστικῇ κατὰ τὸ πρὸς τὰ ἐμπίπτοντα καὶ οὐ προεγνωσμένα ἔτοιμος καὶ ἀπτῶς ἐστάναι.

¹ <οὐ> Reiske. ² καλῶς A.

³ <ἐπ'> Gat.: κάδιάφορον Kron.: Schultz and Schenkl mark a lacuna after δτι.

⁴ βλέπε P: σκοπεῖ D: σκάπτε Schultz.

⁵ συνεστὸς Cor.

⁶ καὶ συντηροῦσα A: ἀεὶ for καὶ Schenkl.

BOOK VII

and gone, must thou count the rest of thy days as so much to the good,¹ and live according to Nature.

57. Love only what befalls thee and is spun for thee by fate. For what can be more befitting for thee?

58. In every contingency keep before thine eyes those who, when these same things befell them, were straightway aggrieved, estranged,² rebellious. Where are they now? Nowhere! What then? Wouldst thou be like them? Why not leave those alien deflections to what deflects and is deflected by them, and devote thyself wholly to the question how to turn these contingencies to the best advantage? For then wilt thou make a noble use of them, and they shall be thy raw material. Only in thought and will take heed to be beautiful to thyself in all that thou doest. And remember, in rejecting the one and using the other, that the thing which matters is the aim of the action.

59. Look within. Within is the fountain of Good,³ ready always to well forth if thou wilt alway delve.

60. The body too should be firmly set and suffer no distortion in movement or bearing. For what the mind effects in the face,⁴ by keeping it composed and well-favoured, should be looked for similarly in the whole body. But all this must be secured without conscious effort.

61. The business of life is more akin to wrestling⁵ than dancing, for it requires of us to stand ready and unshakable against every assault however unforeseen.

¹ cp. Sen. Ep. 12 ad fin. *Quisquis dixit "Vixi," quotidie ad lucrum surgit.* ² Or, *taken by surprise.* cp. viii. 15.

³ St. John iv. 14.

⁴ vii. 37. cp. vii. 24.

⁵ St. Paul, Eph. vi. 12.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ξβ'. Συνεχῶς ἐφιστάναι, τίνες εἰσὶν οὗτοι, ὑφ' ὧν μαρτυρεῖσθαι θέλεις, καὶ τίνα ἡγεμονικὰ ἔχουσιν. οὔτε γὰρ μέμψη τοῖς ἀκουσίως πται-ουσιν, οὔτε ἐπιμαρτυρήσεως δεήσῃ, ἐμβλέπων εἰς τὰς πηγὰς τῆς ὑπολήψεως καὶ ὄρμῆς αὐτῶν.

ξγ'. "Πᾶσα ψυχή," φησίν, "ἄκουσα στέρεται ἀληθείας" οὕτως οὖν καὶ δικαιοσύνης καὶ σωφροσύνης καὶ εὐμενείας καὶ παντὸς τοῦ τοιούτου. ἀναγκαιότατον δὲ τὸ διηνεκῶς τούτου μεμνῆσθαι· ἔσῃ γὰρ πρὸς πάντας πρᾳότερος.

ξδ'. Ἐπὶ μὲν παντὸς πόνου πρόχειρον ἔστω, ὅτι οὐκ αἰσχρόν, οὐδὲ τὴν διάνοιαν τὴν κυβερνῶσαν χείρω ποιεῖ· οὔτε γὰρ καθὸ λογική¹ ἔστιν οὔτε καθὸ κοινωνικὴ διαφθείρει αὐτήν· ἐπὶ μέντοι τῶν πλείστων πόνων καὶ τὸ τοῦ Ἐπικούρου σοι βοηθείτω, ὅτι "οὔτε ἀφόρητον οὔτε αἰώνιον," ἐὰν τῶν ὅρων μνημονεύῃς καὶ μὴ προσδοξάζῃς. κάκείνου δὲ μέμιησο, ὅτι πολλά, πόνω τὰ αὐτὰ ὄντα, λανθάνει δυσχεραινόμενα· οἷον τὸ νυστάζειν καὶ τὸ καυματίζεσθαι καὶ τὸ ἀνορεκτεῖν· ὅταν οὖν τινι τούτων δυσαρεστῆς, λέγε ἔαυτῷ, ὅτι πόνω ἐνδίδως.

ξε'. "Ορα, μήποτέ <τι> τοιοῦτον πάθης πρὸς τοὺς ἀπανθρώπους, οἷον οἱ <ἀπ>άνθρωποι² πρὸς τοὺς ἀνθρώπους.

ξξ'. Πόθεν ἵσμεν, εἰ μὴ Τηλαύγης Σωκράτους τὴν διάθεσιν κρείσσων ἦν; οὐ γὰρ ἀρκεῖ,

¹ καθὸ ὑλικὴ P Mo 2: καθολικὴ A : καθὸ λογικὴ Cas.

² <ἀπ>άνθρωποι Cas.

¹ vi. 59 ; vii. 34.

² Quoted by Epictetus (i. 63, 28 § 4) as from Plato (see Plato, *Soph.* 238 C ; *Rep.* iii. 412) ; viii. 14 ; x. 30 ; xi. 18, § 3.

BOOK VII

62. Continually reflect, who they are whose favourable testimony thou desirest,¹ and what their ruling Reason ; for thus wilt thou not find fault with those who unintentionally offend, nor wilt thou want their testimony, when thou lookest into the inner springs of their opinions and desires.

63. *Every soul, says Plato, is reft of truth against its will.*² Therefore it is the same also with justice and temperance and lovingkindness and every like quality. It is essential to keep this ever in mind, for it will make thee gentler towards all.³

64. Whenever thou art in pain, have this reflection ready, that this is nothing to be ashamed of, nor can it make worse the mind that holds the helm. For it cannot impair it in so far as it is rational or in so far as it is social. In most pains, however, call to thy rescue even Epicurus when he says that a pain is *never unbearable*⁴ or *interminable*, so that thou remember its limitations and add nothing to it in imagination.⁵ Recollect this too that many of our every-day discomforts are really pain in disguise, such as drowsiness,⁶ a high temperature, want of appetite. When inclined to be vexed at any of these, say to thyself : *I am giving in to pain.*⁷

65. See that thou never have for the inhuman the feeling which the inhuman have for human kind.

66. How do we know that Telauges⁸ may not have excelled Socrates in character? For it is not enough

¹ The same word is used of Marcus by Galen (xii. 17 Kühn); Athenag. *Apol.* 1. 1; Lucian, *Peregr.* 17; and Aristides, *ad Reg.* §§ 105, 112.

² vii. 33.

⁵ viii. 49.

⁶ vi. 2.

⁷ cp. vi. 29.

⁸ Son of Pythagoras. See Diog. Laert. *Pyth.* 22. 26.

MARCUS AURELIUS

εὶ Σωκράτης ἐνδοξότερον ἀπέθανε, καὶ ἐντρεχέστερον τοῖς σοφισταῖς διελέγετο, καὶ καρτερικώτερον ἐν τῷ πάγῳ διενυκτέρευεν, καὶ τὸν Σαλαμίνιον κελευσθεὶς ἄγειν γεννικώτερον ἔδοξεν ἀντιβῆναι, καὶ “ἐν ταῖς ὁδοῖς ἐβρευθύετο.” περὶ οὐ καὶ μάλιστ’ ἂν τις ἀπιστήσειεν,¹ εἴπερ ἀληθὴς ἦν· ἀλλ’ ἐκεῖνο δεῖ σκοπεῖν, ποίαν τινὰ τὴν ψυχὴν εἶχε Σωκράτης, καὶ εἰ ἐδύνατο ἀρκεῖσθαι τῷ δίκαιοις εἶναι τὰ πρὸς ἀνθρώπους καὶ ὅσιος τὰ πρὸς θεοὺς μήτε ἐκεῦ² πρὸς τὴν κακίαν ἀγανακτῶν μηδὲ μὴν δουλεύων τινὸς ἀγνοίᾳ μήτε τῶν ἀπονεμομένων ἐκ τοῦ ὅλου ως ξένον τι δεχόμενος ἢ ως ἀφόρητον ὑπομένων μήτε τοῖς τοῦ σαρκιδίου πάθεσιν ἐμπαρέχων συμπαθῆ τὸν νοῦν.

ξξ. Ἡ φύσις οὐχ οὕτως συνεκέρασε τῷ συγκρίματι, ως μὴ ἐφεῖσθαι περιορίζειν ἑαυτὸν καὶ τὰ ἑαυτοῦ ὑφ' ἑαυτῷ ποιεῖσθαι· λίαν γὰρ ἐνδέχεται θεῖον ἄνδρα γενέσθαι καὶ ὑπὸ μηδενὸς γνωρισθῆναι. τούτου μέμνηστο ἀεί, καὶ ἔτι ἐκείνου, ὅτι ἐν ὀλιγίστοις κεῦται τὸ εὐδαιμόνως βιώσαι· καὶ μή, ὅτι ἀπήλπισας διαλεκτικὸς καὶ φυσικὸς ἐσεσθαι, διὰ τοῦτο ἀπογνώς καὶ ἐλεύθερος καὶ αἰδήμων καὶ κοινωνικὸς καὶ εὐπειθῆς θεῶ.

ξη. Ἀβιάστως διαζῆσαι ἐν πλείστῃ θυμηδίᾳ, καν πάντες καταβοῶσιν ἄτινα βούλονται, καν

¹ ἀπιστήσειεν Gat. : dubitari potest Xyl.

² εἰκη P : ἐκείνων Schenkl.

¹ Plato, *Apol.* 20 C ; Epict. iv. 7 § 30.

² Ορ γενναιότερον, more honourable.

BOOK VII

that Socrates died a more glorious death, and disputed more deftly with the Sophists, and with more hardihood braved whole nights in the frost, and, when called upon to fetch the Salaminian,¹ deemed it more spirited² to disobey, and that he *carried his head high as he walked*³—and about the truth of this one can easily judge—; but the point to elucidate is this: what sort of soul had Socrates,⁴ and could he rest satisfied with being just in his dealings with men and religious in his attitude towards the Gods, neither resentful at the wickedness of others nor yet lackeying the ignorance of anyone, nor regarding as alien to himself anything allotted to him from the Whole, nor bearing it as a burden intolerable, nor letting his intelligence be swayed sympathetically by the affections of the flesh?

67. Nature did not make so intimate a blend in the compound as not to allow a man to isolate himself and keep his own things in his own power. For it is very possible to be a godlike man and yet not to be recognized by any.⁵ Never forget this; nor that the happy life depends on the fewest possible things⁶; nor because thou hast been baulked in the hope of becoming skilled in dialectics and physics,⁷ needest thou despair of being free and modest and unselfish and obedient to God.

68. Thou mayest live out thy life with none to constrain thee in the utmost peace of mind even though the whole world cry out against thee what

³ Arist. *Nub.* 363; Plato, *Symp.* 221 B. The meaning of the parenthesis is not clear. ⁴ cp. Dio *Orat.* iii. *ad init.*

⁵ Sen. (*Ep.* 79) instances Democritus, Socrates, and Cato.

⁶ Julian, *Conviv.* 427. 21, where Marcus, asked in what consists the imitation of the Gods, says δεῖσθαι τῶν ἐλαχίστων. cp. Lucian, *Cynic.* 12: οἱ δὲ γγυστοὶ θεοῖς ἐλαχίστων δέονται. Diog. Laert. *Socr.* 11. ⁷ i. 17, § 8; cp. v. 5; viii. 1.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τὰ θηρία διασπά τὰ μελύδρια τοῦ περιτεθραμμένου τούτου φυράματος. τί γάρ κωλύει ἐν πᾶσι τούτοις τὴν διάνοιαν σώζειν ἑαυτὴν ἐν γαλήνῃ, καὶ κρίσει [τῇ] περὶ τῶν περιεστηκότων ἀληθεῖ, καὶ χρήσει τῶν ὑποβεβλημένων ἐτούμη; ὥστε τὴν μὲν κρίσιν λέγειν τῷ προσπίπτοντε· “Τοῦτο ὑπάρχεις κατ’ οὐσίαν, καν κατὰ δόξαν ἀλλοίον φαίνῃ,” τὴν δὲ χρῆσιν λέγειν τῷ ὑποπίπτοντε· “Σὲ ἔζητον.” ἀεὶ γάρ μοι τὸ παρὸν ὕλη ἀρετῆς λογικῆς καὶ πολιτικῆς καὶ τὸ σύνολον τέχνης ἀνθρώπου ἡ θεοῦ. πᾶν γάρ τὸ συμβαίνον θεῷ ἡ ἀνθρώπῳ ἔξοικειοῦται καὶ οὕτε καινὸν οὕτε δυσμεταχείριστον, ἀλλὰ γνώριμον καὶ εὐεργές.

ξθ'. Τοῦτο ἔχει ἡ τελειότης τοῦ ηθους, τὸ πᾶσαν ἡμέραν ὡς τελευταίαν διεξάγειν καὶ μήτε σφύζειν μήτε ναρκᾶν μήτε ὑποκρίνεσθαι.

ο'. Οἱ θεοί, ἀθάνατοι ὄντες, οὐ δυσχεραίνουσιν, ὅτι ἐν τοσούτῳ αἰώνι δεήσει αὐτοὺς πάντως ἀεὶ τοιούτων ὄντων καὶ τοσούτων φαύλων ἀνέχεσθαι· προσέτι δὲ καὶ κήδονται αὐτῶν παντοίως. σὺ δὲ ὅσον οὐδέπω λήγειν μέλλων ἀπαυδᾶς, καὶ ταῦτα, εἰς ὅν τῶν φαύλων;

οα'. Γελοΐόν ἔστι τὴν μὲν ἴδιαν κακίαν μὴ φεύγειν, δ καὶ δυνατόν ἔστι τὴν δὲ τῶν ἄλλων φεύγειν, ὅπερ ἀδύνατον.

οβ'. “Ο ἀν ἡ λογικὴ καὶ πολιτικὴ δύναμις εύρισκη μήτε νοερὸν μήτε κοινωνικόν, εὐλόγως καταδεέστερον ἑαυτῆς κρίνει.

¹ xi. 3. Applies accurately to the Christians. cp. i. 6;
iii. 16; viii. 48, 51, § 2. ² iv. 1.

BOOK VII

they will, even though beasts tear limb from limb this plastic clay that has encased thee with its growth.¹ For what in all this debars the mind from keeping itself in calmness, in a right judgment as to its environment, and in readiness to use all that is put at its disposal? so that the judgment can say to that which meets it: *In essential substance thou art this, whatever else the common fame would have thee be.* And the use can say to the object presented to it: *Thee was I seeking.* For the thing in hand is for me ever material for the exercise of rational and civic virtue,² and in a word for the art of a man or of God. For everything that befalls is intimately connected with God or man, and is not new or difficult to deal with, but familiar and feasible.

69. This is the mark of a perfect character, to pass through each day as if it were the last,³ without agitation, without torpor, without pretence.

70. The Gods—and they are immortal—do not take it amiss that for a time so long they must inevitably and always put up with worthless men who are what they are and so many⁴; nay they even befriend them in all manner of ways. But thou, though destined to die so soon, criest off, and that too though thou art one of the worthless ones thyself.

71. It is absurd not to eschew our own wickedness, which is possible, but to eschew that of others, which is not possible.⁵

72. Whatever thy rational and civic faculty discovers to be neither intelligent nor social, it judges with good reason to fall short of its own standard.

³ ii. 5.

⁴ St. Matt. v. 45.

⁵ v. 17; ix. 42.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ογ'. "Οταν σὺ εὖ πεποιηκάς ἡς καὶ ἄλλος εὖ πεπονθώς, τί ἐπιζητεῖς τρίτον παρὰ ταῦτα, ὥσπερ οἱ μωροί, τὸ καὶ δόξαι εὖ πεποιηκέναι ἢ τὸ ἀμοιβῆς τυχεῖν;

οδ'. Οὐδεὶς κάμνει ώφελούμενος. ώφέλεια δὲ πρᾶξις κατὰ φύσιν μὴ οὖν κάμνε ώφελούμενος, ἐν φῷ ώφέλεις.

οε'. Ἡ τοῦ ὅλου φύσις ἐπὶ τὴν κοσμοποιίαν ὥρμησε· νῦν δὲ ἡτοι πᾶν τὸ γινόμενον κατ' ἐπακολούθησιν γίνεται, ἡ ἀλόγιστα καὶ τὰ κυριώτατά ἐστιν, ἐφ' ἂ ποιεῖται ἵδιαν ὄρμὴν τὸ τοῦ κόσμου ἡγεμονικόν. εἰς πολλά σε γαληνότερον ποιήσει τοῦτο μυημονευόμενον.

BOOK VII

73. When thou hast done well to another and another has fared well at thy hands, why go on like the foolish to look for a third thing besides, that is, the credit also of having done well or a return for the same¹?

74. No one wearis of benefits received; and to act by the law of Nature is its own benefit. Weary not then of being benefited therein, wherein thou dost benefit others.²

75. The Nature of the Whole felt impelled to the creation of a Universe; but now either all that comes into being does so by a natural sequence,³ or even the most paramount things, towards which the ruling Reason of the Universe feels an impulse of its own, are devoid of intelligence. Recollect this⁴ and thou wilt face many an ill with more serenity.

¹ v. 6; ix. 42. *cp.* Fronto, *de Nep. ad fin.*

² *cp.* St. Paul, Gal. vi. 9; 2 Thess. iii. 13. For the Stoic view see Stob. *Ecl.* ii. 188.

³ iv. 45; ix. 28.

⁴ Marcus means that we must consider the second alternative given above as incredible.

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ Η

α'. Καὶ τοῦτο πρὸς τὸ ἀκενόδοξον φέρει, ὅτι οὐκ ἔτι δύνασαι τὸν βίον ὅλον ἡ τόν γε ἀπὸ νεότητος φιλόσοφον βεβιωκέναι· ἀλλὰ πολλοῖς τε ἄλλοις καὶ αὐτὸς σεαυτῷ δῆλος γέγονας πόρρω φιλοσοφίας ὡν. πέφυρσαι οὖν· ὥστε τὴν μὲν δόξαν τὴν τοῦ φιλοσόφου κτήσασθαι οὐκ ἔτι σοι ῥάδιον· ἀνταγωνίζεται δὲ καὶ ἡ ὑπόθεσις. εἴπερ οὖν ἀληθῶς ἔώρακας, ποῦ κεῖται τὸ πρᾶγμα, τὸ μέν, τί δόξεις, ἄφεις, ἀρκέσθητι δέ, εἰ καν τὸ λοιπὸν τοῦ βίου ὅσον δήποτε, <ώς>¹ ἡ σὴ φύσις θέλει, βιώσῃ. κατανόησον οὖν, τί θέλει, καὶ μηδὲν ἄλλο σε περισπάτω· πεπείρασαι γάρ, περὶ πόσα πλανηθείς, οὐδαμοῦ εὑρεις τὸ εὖ ξῆν· οὐκ ἐν συλλογισμοῖς, οὐκ ἐν πλούτῳ, οὐκ ἐν δόξῃ, οὐκ ἐν ἀπολαύσει, οὐδαμοῦ. ποῦ οὖν ἔστιν; ἐν τῷ ποιεῖν ἢ ἐπιζητεῖ ἡ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου φύσις· πῶς οὖν ταῦτα ποιήσει; ἐὰν δόγματα ἔχῃ, ἀφ' ὧν αἱ ὄρμαι καὶ αἱ πράξεις. τίνα δόγματα; τὰ περὶ ἀγαθῶν καὶ κακῶν, ὡς οὐδενὸς μὲν ἀγαθοῦ ὄντος ἀνθρώπῳ, δὲ οὐχὶ ποιεῖ δίκαιον, σώφρονα,

¹ <ώς> Gat.

BOOK VIII

1. THIS too serves as a corrective to vain-gloriousness, that thou art no longer able to have lived thy life wholly, or even from thy youth up, as a philosopher. Thou canst clearly perceive, and many others can see it too, that thou art far from Philosophy. So then thy life is a chaos,¹ and no longer is it easy for thee to win the credit of being a philosopher ; and the facts of thy life too war against it. If then thine eyes have verily seen where the truth lies, care no more what men shall think of thee, but be content if the rest of thy life, whether long or short, be lived as thy nature wills. Make sure then what that will is, and let nothing else draw thee aside. For past experience tells thee in how much thou hast gone astray, nor anywhere lighted upon the true life ; no, not in the subtleties of logic,² or in wealth or fame or enjoyment, or *anywhere*. Where then is it to be found ? In doing that which is the quest of man's nature. How then shall a man do this ? By having axioms as the source of his impulses and actions. What axioms ? On the nature of Good and Evil, shewing that nothing is for a man's good save what makes him just, temperate, manly, free ; nor any

¹ Or, *thou hast been besmirched*, but *cp.* vi. 16, § 3.

² i. 17 *ad fin.* ; vii. 67.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἀνδρεῖον, ἐλεύθερον, οὐδενὸς δὲ κακοῦ, ὃ οὐχὶ ποιεῖ τάνατία τοῖς εἰρημένοις.

β'. Καθ' ἑκάστην πρᾶξιν ἔρωτα σεαυτόν· "Πῶς μοι αὗτῇ ἔχει; μὴ μετανοήσω ἐπ' αὐτῇ;" μικρὸν καὶ τέθυηκα καὶ πάντ' ἐκ μέσου. τί πλέον ἐπιζητῶ, εἰ τὸ παρὸν ἔργον ζώου νοεροῦ καὶ κοινωνικοῦ καὶ ἴσονόμου θεῷ;

γ'. Ἀλέξανδρος [δὲ] καὶ Γάϊος καὶ Πομπήιος, τί πρὸς Διογένη καὶ Ἡράκλειτον καὶ Σωκράτην; οἱ μὲν γὰρ εἶδον τὰ πράγματα καὶ τὰς αἰτίας καὶ τὰς ὕλας, καὶ τὰ ἡγεμονικὰ ἦν αὐτῶν αὐτά. †¹ ἐκεῖ δὲ ὅσων πρόνοια καὶ δουλεία πόσων.

δ. "Οτι οὐδὲν ἥττον τὰ αὐτὰ ποιήσουσι, καὶ σὺ διαρραγῆς.

ε'. Τὸ πρῶτον μὴ ταράσσου· πάντα γὰρ κατὰ τὴν τοῦ ὅλου φύσιν· καὶ ὀλίγου χρόνου οὐδεὶς οὐδαμοῦ ἔσῃ· ὥσπερ οὐδὲ Ἄδριανός, οὐδὲ Αὔγουστος. ἔπειτα ἀτενίσας εἰς τὸ πρᾶγμα ἵδε αὐτὸν καὶ συμμυημονεύσας, ὅτι ἀγαθόν σε ἄνθρωπον εἴναι δεῖ, καὶ τί τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἡ φύσις ἀπαιτεῖ, πρᾶξον τοῦτο ἀμεταστρεπτὸν καὶ εἰπέ, ὡς δικαιότατον φαίνεται σοι, μόνον εὐμενῶς καὶ αἰδημόνως καὶ ἀνυποκρίτως.

Ϛ'. Ἡ τῶν ὅλων φύσις τοῦτο ἔργον ἔχει, τὰ ὧδε ὅντα ἐκεῖ μετατιθέναι, μεταβάλλειν, αἴρειν ἔνθεν καὶ ἐκεῖ φέρειν. πάντα τροπαί, οὐχ ὥστε

¹ αὐτὰ A : ταῦτα P : ταῦτα Cas.: αὐτάρκη Schenkl.

¹ Justin (*Apol.* i. 46) mentions Heraclitus and Socrates and others like them as "living with the divine Logos." And

BOOK VIII

thing for his ill that makes him not the reverse of these.

2. In every action ask thyself, *How does it affect me?* *Shall I regret it?* But a little and I am dead and all that lies between is past. What more do I ask for, as long as my present work is that of a living creature, intelligent, social, and under one law with God?

3. What are Alexander and Gaius and Pompeius to Diogenes and Heraclitus¹ and Socrates? For these latter had their eyes opened to things and to the causes and the material substance of things, and their ruling Reason was their very own. But those—what a host of cares, what a world of slavery!

4. Thou mayst burst thyself with rage, but they will go on doing the same things none the less.

5. Firstly, fret not thyself, for all things are as the Nature of the Universe would have them, and within a little thou shalt be non-existent, and nowhere, like Hadrianus and Augustus. Secondly, look steadfastly at the thing, and see it as it is and, remembering withal that thou must be a good man, and what the Nature of man calls for, do this without swerving, and speak as seemeth to thee most just, only be it graciously, modestly, and without feigning.²

6. The Nature of the Universe is charged with this task, to transfer yonder the things which are here, to interchange them, to take them hence and convey them thither. All things are but phases of in *Apol.* ii. 8 Heraclitus and Musonius are spoken of as hated and slain for their opinions.

² The word here used by Marcus occurs only in Christian writings.

MARCUS AURELIUS

φοβηθῆναι, μή τι καινόν πάντα συνήθη· ἀλλὰ καὶ ἵσαι αἱ ἀπονεμήσεις.

ζ. Ἀρκεῖται πᾶσα φύσις ἑαυτῇ εὐδούσῃ· φύσις δὲ λογικὴ εὔδει ἐν μὲν φαντασίαις μήτε ψευδεῖ μήτε ἀδήλῳ συγκατατιθεμένη, τὰς ὄρμας δὲ ἐπὶ τὰ κοινωνικὰ ἔργα μόνα ἀπευθύνουσα, τὰς ὄρέξεις δὲ καὶ τὰς ἐκκλίσεις τῶν ἐφ' ἡμῖν μόνων πεποιημένη, τὸ δὲ ὑπὸ τῆς κοινῆς φύσεως ἀπονεμόμενον πᾶν ἀσπαζομένη. μέρος γὰρ αὐτῆς ἐστιν, ως ἡ τοῦ φύλλου φύσις τῆς τοῦ φυτοῦ φύσεως· πλὴν ὅτι ἐκεῖ μὲν ἡ τοῦ φύλλου φύσις μέρος ἐστὶ φύσεως καὶ ἀναισθήτου καὶ ἀλόγου καὶ ἐμποδίζεσθαι δυναμένης, ἡ δὲ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου φύσις μέρος ἐστὶν ἀνεμποδίστου φύσεως καὶ νοερᾶς καὶ δικαίας, εἴγε ἵσους καὶ κατ' ἀξίαν τοὺς μερισμοὺς χρόνων, οὐσίας, αἰτίου, ἐνεργείας, συμβάσεως, ἐκάστοις ποιεῖται. σκόπει δέ, μὴ εἰ τὸ <ἐν> πρὸς τὸ ἐν ἵσον εὑρήσεις ἐπὶ παντός, ἀλλὰ εἰ συλλήθδην τὰ πάντα τοῦδε πρὸς ἀθρόα τὰ τοῦ ἔτέρου.

η'. "Αναγινώσκειν οὐκ ἔξεστιν." ἀλλὰ ὕβριν ἀνείργειν ἔξεστιν· ἀλλὰ ἡδονῶν καὶ πόνων καθυπερτερεῖν ἔξεστιν· ἀλλὰ τοῦ δοξαρίου ὑπεράνω εἰναι ἔξεστιν· ἀλλὰ ἀναισθήτους καὶ ἀχαρίστους μὴ θυμοῦσθαι, προσέτι κήδεσθαι αὐτῶν ἔξεστιν.

θ'. Μηκέτι σου μηδεὶς ἀκούσῃ καταμεμφομένου τὸν ἐν αὐλῇ βίον, μηδὲ σὺ σεαυτοῦ.

ι'. 'Η μετάνοιά ἐστιν ἐπίληψίς τις ἑαυτοῦ, ως χρήσιμόν τι παρεικότος· τὸ δὲ ἀγαθὸν χρήσιμόν τι δεῖ εἰναι, καὶ ἐπιμελητέον αὐτοῦ τῷ καλῷ καὶ

¹ ii. 14; iv. 32; vii. 1 etc.

BOOK VIII

change, but nothing new-fangled need be feared ; all things are of the wonted type,¹ nay, their distributions also are alike.

7. Every nature is content with itself when it speeds well on its way ; and a rational nature speeds well on its way, when in its impressions it gives assent to nothing that is false or obscure, and directs its impulses towards none but social acts, and limits its inclinations and its aversions only to things that are in its power, and welcomes all that the Universal Nature allots it. For it is a part of that, as the nature of the leaf is of the plant-nature ; with the difference however, that in the case of the plant the nature of the leaf is part of a nature void both of sentience and reason, and liable to be thwarted, while a man's nature is part of a nature unthwartable and intelligent and just, if indeed it divides up equally and in due measure to every one his quotas of time, substance, cause, activity, circumstance. And consider, not whether thou shalt find one thing in every case equal to one thing, but whether, collectively, the whole of this equal to the aggregate of that.

8. *Thou canst not be a student.* But thou canst refrain from insolence ; but thou canst rise superior to pleasures and pains ; but thou canst tread under thy feet the love of glory ; but thou canst forbear to be angry with the unfeeling and the thankless,² aye and even care for them.

9. Let no one hear thee any more grumbling at life in a Court,³ nay let not thine own ears hear thee.

10. Repentance is a sort of self-reproach at some useful thing passed by ; but the good must needs be a useful thing, and ever to be cultivated by the true

² St. Luke vi. 35.

³ v. 16.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἀγαθῷ ἀνδρί· οὐδεὶς δὲ ἀν καλὸς καὶ ἀγαθὸς ἀνὴρ μετανοήσειεν ἐπὶ τῷ ἡδουνήν τινα παρεικέναι· οὕτε ἄρα χρήσιμον οὔτε ἀγαθὸν ἡδονή.

ια'. Τοῦτο τί ἔστιν αὐτὸ καθ' ἑαυτὸ τῇ ἴδιᾳ κατασκευῇ; τί μὲν τὸ οὐσιῶδες αὐτοῦ καὶ ὑλικόν; τί δὲ τὸ αἰτιῶδες; τί δὲ ποιεῖ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ; πόσον δὲ χρόνον ὑφίσταται;

ιβ'. "Οταν ἔξ ὑπνου δυσχερῶς ἐγείρῃ, ἀναμιμήσκου, ὅτι κατὰ τὴν κατασκευήν σου ἔστι καὶ κατὰ τὴν ἀνθρωπικὴν φύσιν τὸ πράξεις κοινωνικὰς ἀποδιδόναι, τὸ δὲ καθεύδειν κοινὸν καὶ τῶν ἀλόγων ζώων· δὲ κατὰ φύσιν ἐκάστῳ, τοῦτο οἰκειότερον καὶ προσφυέστερον καὶ δὴ καὶ προσηνέστερον.

ιγ'. Διηγεκῶς καὶ ἐπὶ πάσης, εἰ οἶόν τε, φαντασίας φυσιολογεῖν, παθολογεῖν, διαλεκτικεύεσθαι.

ιδ'. Ὡι ἀν ἐντυγχάνης, εὐθὺς σαυτῷ πρόλεγε· οὗτος τίνα δόγματα ἔχει περὶ ἀγαθῶν καὶ κακῶν; εἰ γὰρ περὶ ἡδονῆς καὶ πόνου καὶ τῶν ποιητικῶν ἐκατέρου καὶ περὶ δόξης, ἀδοξίας, θανάτου, ζωῆς τοιάδε τινὰ δόγματα ἔχει, οὐδὲν θαυμαστὸν ἦξενον μοι δόξει, ἐὰν τάδε τινὰ ποιή· καὶ μεμνήσομαι, ὅτι ἀναγκάζεται οὕτως ποιεῖν.

ιε'. Μέμνησο, ὅτι, ὥσπερ αἰσχρόν ἔστι ξενίζεσθαι, εἰ ἡ συκῆ σῦκα φέρει, οὕτως, εἰ ὁ κόσμος τάδε τινὰ φέρει, ὃν ἔστι φορός· καὶ ἰατρῷ δὲ καὶ κυβερνήτῃ αἰσχρὸν ξενίζεσθαι, εἰ πεπύρεχεν οὗτος ἢ εἰ ἀντίπνοια γέγονεν.

¹ Or, *formative.*

² v. 1.
⁴ v. 17; vii. 71; xi. 18, § 3.

³ Or, *axioms.*

⁵ 1 St. Peter, iv. 12.

BOOK VIII

good man ; but the true good man would never regret having passed a pleasure by. Pleasure therefore is neither a useful thing nor a good.

11. What of itself is the thing in question as individually constituted ? What is the substance and material of it ? What the causal¹ part ? What doeth it in the Universe ? How long doth it subsist ?

12. When thou art loth to get up,² call to mind that the due discharge of social duties is in accordance with thy constitution and in accordance with man's nature, while even irrational animals share with us the faculty of sleep ; but what is in accordance with the nature of the individual is more congenial, more closely akin to him, aye and more attractive.

13. Persistently and, if possible, in every case test thy impressions by the rules of physics, ethics, logic.

14. Whatever man thou meetest, put to thyself at once this question : *What are this man's convictions³ about good and evil?* For if they are such and such about pleasure and pain and what is productive of them, about good report and ill report, about death and life, it will be in no way strange or surprising to me if he does such and such things. So I will remember that he is constrained to act as he does.⁴

15. Remember that, as it is monstrous to be surprised at a fig-tree bearing figs, so also is it to be surprised at the Universe bearing its own particular crop. Likewise it is monstrous for a physician or a steersman to be surprised⁵ that a patient has fever or that a contrary wind has sprung up.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ιε'. Μέμνησο, ὅτι καὶ τὸ μετατίθεσθαι καὶ ἐπεσθαι τῷ διορθοῦντι ὁμοίως ἐλεύθερόν ἔστιν. σὴ γὰρ ἐνέργεια κατὰ τὴν σὴν ὄρμὴν καὶ κρίσιν καὶ δὴ καὶ κατὰ νοῦν τὸν σὸν περαινομένη.

ιζ'. Εἰ μὲν ἐπὶ σοί, τί αὐτὸ ποιεῖς; εἰ δὲ ἐπ' ἄλλῳ, τίνι μέμφῃ; ταῖς ἀτόμοις ἢ τοῖς θεοῖς; ἀμφότερα μανιώδη. οὐδενὶ μεμπτέον. εἰ μὲν γὰρ δύνασαι, διόρθωσον· εἰ δὲ τοῦτο μὴ δύνασαι, τὸ γε πρᾶγμα αὐτό· εἰ δὲ μηδὲ τοῦτο, πρὸς τί ἔτι σοι φέρει τὸ μέμψασθαι; εἰκῇ γὰρ οὐδὲν ποιητέον.

ιη'. "Εξω τοῦ κόσμου τὸ ἀποθανὸν οὐ πίπτει. εἰ ὡδε μένει, καὶ μεταβάλλει ὡδε καὶ διαλύεται εἰς τὰ ἴδια, ἀ στοιχεῖα ἔστι τοῦ κόσμου καὶ σά. καὶ αὐτὰ δὲ μεταβάλλει καὶ οὐ γογγύζει.

ιθ'. "Εκαστον πρός τι γέγονεν, ἵππος, ἄμπελος· τί θαυμάζεις; καὶ οἱ "Ηλιος ἐρεῖ, "πρός τι ἔργον γέγονα," καὶ οἱ λοιποὶ θεοί. σὺ οὖν πρὸς τι; τὸ ἥδεσθαι; ἵδε, εἰ ἀνέχεται ἡ ἔννοια.

κ'. 'Η φύσις ἔστοχασται ἑκάστου οὐδέν τι ἔλασσον τῆς ἀπολήξεως ἢ τῆς ἀρχῆς τε καὶ διεξαγωγῆς, ὡς οἱ ἀναβάλλων τὴν σφαιραν· τί οὖν ἢ ἀγαθὸν τῷ σφαιρίῳ ἀναφερομένῳ ἢ κακὸν καταφερομένῳ ἢ καὶ πεπτωκότι; τί δὲ ἀγαθὸν τῇ πομφόλυγι συνεστώσῃ ἢ κακὸν διαλυθείσῃ; τὰ ὅμοια δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ λύχνου.

¹ cp. vi. 30; vii. 7. cp. Capit. xxii. 4: "Aequius est ut ego tot talium amicorum consilium sequar, quam ut tot tales amici meam unius voluntatem sequantur"; Digest. 37. 14. 17.

² Annius Verus, grandfather of Marcus, was the best ball-player of his day, see Wilmanns Inscr. 574. Marcus himself was an adept at the ball-game, Capit. iv. 9.

BOOK VIII

16. Remember that neither a change of mind nor a willingness to be set right by others¹ is inconsistent with true freedom of will. For thine alone is the active effort that effects its purpose in accordance with thy impulse and judgment, aye and thy intelligence also.

17. If the choice rests with thee, why do the thing? if with another, whom dost thou blame? Atoms or Gods? To do either would be crazy folly. No one is to blame. For if thou canst, set the offender right. Failing that, at least set the thing itself right. If that too be impracticable, what purpose is served by imputing blame? For without a purpose nothing should be done.

18. That which dies is not cast out of the Universe. As it remains here, it also suffers change here and is dissolved into its own constituents, which are the elements of the Universe and thy own. Yes, and they too suffer change and murmur not.

19. Every thing, be it a horse, be it a vine, has come into being for some end. Why wonder? Helios himself will say: *I exist to do some work*; and so of all the other Gods. For what then dost thou exist? For pleasure? Surely it is unthinkable.

20. Nature has included in its aim in every case the ceasing to be no less than the beginning and the duration, just as the man who tosses up his ball.² But what good does the ball gain while tossed upwards, or harm as it comes down, or finally when it reaches the ground? Or what good accrues to the bubble while it coheres, or harm in its bursting? And the same holds good with the lamp-flame.

MARCUS AURELIUS

κα'. Ἐκστρεψον καὶ θέασαι, οἷόν ἐστι,
γηράσαν δὲ οἶον γίνεται, νοσῆσαν δέ, ἀπο-
πνεῦσαν δέ.†¹

2 Βραχύβιον καὶ ὁ ἐπαινῶν καὶ ὁ ἐπαινούμενος,
καὶ ὁ μημονεύων καὶ ὁ μημονευόμενος. προσέτι
δὲ καὶ ἐν γωνίᾳ τούτου τοῦ κλίματος, καὶ οὐδὲ
ἐνταῦθα πάντες συμφωνοῦσι, καὶ οὐδὲ αὐτός τις
έαυτῷ· καὶ δῆλη δὲ ἡ γῆ στιγμή.

κβ'. Πρόσεχε τῷ ὑποκειμένῳ ἢ τῇ ἐνεργείᾳ
ἢ τῷ δόγματι² ἢ τῷ σημαινομένῳ.

2 Δικαίως ταῦτα πάσχεις· μᾶλλον δὲ θέλεις
ἀγαθὸς αὔριον γενέσθαι ἢ σήμερον εἶναι.

κγ'. Πράσσω τι; πράσσω ἐπ' ἀνθρώπων
εὐποιίαν ἀναφέρων· συμβαίνει τί μοι; δέχομαι
ἐπὶ τοὺς θεοὺς ἀναφέρων καὶ τὴν πάντων πηγήν,
ἀφ' ἣς πάντα τὰ γινομένα συμμηρύεται.

κδ'. Ὁποῖόν σοι φαίνεται τὸ λούεσθαι·
ἔλαιον, ἰδρώς, ρύπος, ὕδωρ γλοιώδες, πάντα
σικχαντά· τοιοῦτον πᾶν μέρος τοῦ βίου καὶ πᾶν
ὑποκείμενον.

κέ'. Λούκιλλα Οὐῆρον, εἴτα Λούκιλλα· Σέ-
κουνδα Μάξιμον, εἴτα Σέκουνδα· Ἐπιτύγχανος
Διότιμον, εἴτα Ἐπιτύγχανος· Φαυστίναν Ἀντων-
ῖνος, εἴτα Ἀντωνῖνος. τοιαῦτα πάντα· Κέλερ
Ἀδριανόν, εἴτα Κέλερ.³ οἱ δὲ δριμεῖς ἐκεῖνοι ἢ
προγνωστικοὶ ἢ τετυφωμένοι, ποῦ; οἶον δριμεῖς
μὲν Χάραξ καὶ Δημήτριος [ὁ Πλατωνικός]⁴ καὶ

¹ πορνεῦσαν P: πορνεύσας δὲ A: διαπυῆσαν Leopold: ἀπο-
πνεῦσαν Gat.

² ἢ τῷ δόγματι ἢ τῇ ἐνεργείᾳ P.

³ Stich would transfer Κέλερ . . . Κέλερ to the beginning
of the paragraph.

⁴ ὁ Πλατωνικὸς possibly a wrong gloss.

BOOK VIII

21. Turn it¹ inside out and see what it is like, what it comes to be when old, when sickly, when carrion.

They endure but for a season, both praiser and praised, rememberer and remembered.² All this too in a tiny corner of this continent, and not even there are all in accord, no nor a man with himself; and the whole earth is itself a point.³

22. Fix thy attention on the subject-matter or the act or the principle or the thing signified.

Rightly served! Thou wouldest rather become a good man to-morrow than be one to-day.

23. Am I doing some thing? I do it with reference to the well-being of mankind. Does something befall me? I accept it with a reference to the Gods and to the Source of all things from which issue, linked together, the things that come into being.

24. What bathing is when thou thinkest of it—oil, sweat, filth, greasy water, everything revolting—such is every part of life and every object we meet with.

25. Lucilla⁴ buried Verus, then Lucilla was buried; Secunda Maximus,⁵ then Secunda; Epitynchanus Diotimus, then Epitynchanus; Antoninus Faustina, then Antoninus. The same tale always: Celer⁶ buried Hadrianus and then Celer was buried. And those acute wits, men renowned for their prescience or their pride, where are they? Such acute wits, for instance, as Charax and Demetrius [the Platonist⁷]

¹ i.e. the body. ² iii. 10; iv. 3, § 3. ³ iv. 3, § 3; vi. 36.

⁴ The mother of Marcus, not as Gataker, Long, etc. the daughter. ⁵ i. 15. ⁶ See Index II.

⁷ Arethas on Lucian, *de Salt.* § 63, alludes to this passage, but Lucian's Demetrius is the Cynic whom in *Demon.* § 3 he couples with Epictetus. (cp. also *adv. Ind.* § 19.) See Index II.

MARCUS AURELIUS

Εύδαιμων καὶ εἴ τις τοιοῦτος. πάντα ἐφήμερα, τεθνηκότα πάλαι· ἔνιοι μὲν οὐδὲ ἐπ' ὀλίγον μνημονευθέντες· οἱ δὲ εἰς μύθους μεταβαλόντες· οἱ δὲ ἥδη καὶ ἐκ μύθων ἔξιτηλοι. τούτων οὖν μεμνῆσθαι, ὅτι δεήσει ἡτοι σκεδασθῆναι τὸ συγκριμάτιον σου, ἡ σβεσθῆναι τὸ πνευμάτιον, ἡ μεταστῆναι καὶ ἀλλαχοῦ καταταχθῆναι.¹

κς'. Εὐφροσύνη ἀνθρώπου ποιεῖν τὰ ἴδια ἀνθρώπου. ἴδιον δὲ ἀνθρώπου εὔνοια πρὸς τὸ ὁμόφυλον, ὑπερόρασις τῶν αἰσθητικῶν κινήσεων, διάκρισις τῶν πιθανῶν φαντασιῶν, ἐπιθεώρησις τῆς τῶν ὅλων φύσεως καὶ τῶν κατ' αὐτὴν γινομένων.

κζ'. Γρεῖς σχέσεις· ἡ μὲν πρὸς τὸ ἀγγεῖον² τὸ περικείμενον· ἡ δὲ πρὸς τὴν θείαν αἰτίαν, ἀφ' ἣς συμβαίνει πᾶσι πάντα· ἡ δὲ πρὸς τοὺς συμβιοῦντας.

κη'. Ὁ πόνος ἡτοι τῷ σώματι κακόν· οὐκοῦν ἀποφαινέσθω· ἡ τῇ ψυχῇ ἀλλ' ἔξεστιν αὐτῇ, τὴν ἴδιαν αἰθρίαν καὶ γαληνήν διαφυλάσσειν καὶ μὴ ὑπολαμβάνειν, ὅτι κακόν. πᾶσα γὰρ κρίσις καὶ ὄρμή καὶ ὅρεξις καὶ ἔκκλισις ἔνδον, καὶ οὐδὲν³ ὡδε ἀναβαίνει.

κθ'. Ἐξάλειφε τὰς φαντασίας συνεχῶς σεαυτῷ λέγων· “Νῦν ἐπ' ἐμοὶ ἐστιν, ἵνα ἐν ταύτῃ τῇ ψυχῇ μηδεμίᾳ πονηρίᾳ ἡ μηδὲ ἐπιθυμίᾳ μηδὲ ὅλως ταραχῇ τις· ἀλλὰ βλέπων πάντα, ὅποιά ἔστι, χρῶμαι ἐκάστῳ κατ' ἀξίαν.” μέμνησο ταύτης τῆς ἔξουσίας κατὰ φύσιν.

¹ καταταχθῆναι A.

² αἰτίον PA: ἀγγεῖον (cp. iii. 3, xii. 2) Valckenaer: σωμάτιον Cor. ³ <κακὸν> P, but cp. viii. 49.

BOOK VIII

and Eudaemon, and others like them. All creatures of a day, dead long ago!—some not remembered even for a while, others transformed into legends,¹ and yet others from legends faded into nothingness! Bear then in mind that either this thy composite self must be scattered abroad, or thy vital breath be quenched, or be transferred² and set elsewhere.

26. It brings gladness to a man to do a man's true work. And a man's true work is to shew goodwill to his own kind, to disdain the motions of the senses, to diagnose specious impressions, to take a comprehensive view of the Nature of the Universe and all that is done at her bidding.

27. Thou hast three relationships—the first to the vessel thou art contained in; the second to the divine Cause wherefrom issue all things to all; and the third to those that dwell with thee.³

28. Pain is an evil either to the body—let the body then denounce it⁴—or to the Soul; but the Soul can ensure her own fair weather and her own calm sea,⁵ and refuse to account it an evil. For every conviction and impulse and desire and aversion is from within,⁶ and nothing climbs in thither.

29. Efface thy impressions,⁷ saying ever to thyself: *Now lies it with me that this soul should harbour no wickedness nor lust nor any disturbing element at all; but that, seeing the true nature of all things,⁸ I should deal with each as is its due.* Bethink thee of this power that Nature gives thee.

¹ xii. 27.

² Or, *leave thee*; but *cp.* v. 33.

³ i. 12; v. 10, 48; ix. 3 *ad fin.*

⁴ vii. 33.

⁵ xii. 22.

⁶ v. 19; St. Matt. xv. 18.

⁷ vii. 17, 29; ix. 7.

⁸ iii. 11.

MARCUS AURELIUS

λ'. Λαλεῖν καὶ ἐν συγκλήτῳ καὶ πρὸς πάνθ' ὄντινοῦν κοσμίως, μὴ περιτράνως· Ὄγιεῖ λόγῳ χρῆσθαι.

λα'. Αὐλὴ Αὔγούστου, γυνή, θυγάτηρ, ἔγγονοι, πρόγονοι, ἀδελφή, Ἀγρίππας, συγγενεῖς, οἰκεῖοι, φίλοι, Ἀρειος, Μαικήνας, ἰατροί, θύται· ὅλης αὐλῆς θάνατος. εἴτα ἐπιθι τὰς ἄλλας <καταστροφὰς>¹ μὴ καθ' ἐνὸς ἀνθρώπου θάνατον, οἷον Πομπήων. κάκεῖνο δὲ τὸ ἐπιγραφόμενον τοῖς μνήμασιν, “Εσχατος τοῦ ἴδιου γένους,” ἐπιλογίζεσθαι, πόσα ἐσπάσθησαν οἱ πρὸ αὐτῶν, ἵνα διάδοχόν τινα καταλίπωσιν· εἴτα ἀνάγκη ἐσχατόν τινα γενέσθαι· πάλιν ὡδεῖ ὅλου γένους θάνατον.

λβ'. Συντιθέναι δεῖ τὸν βίον κατὰ μίαν πρᾶξιν, καὶ εἰ ἑκάστη τὸ ἑαυτῆς παρέχει,² ὡς οἶον τε, ἀρκεῖσθαι· ἵνα δὲ τὸ ἑαυτῆς παρέχῃ,³ οὐδὲ εἰς σε κωλῦσαι δύναται. “Ἄλλ' ἐνστήσεται τι ἔξωθεν.” οὐδὲν εἴς γε τὸ δικαίως⁴ καὶ σωφρόνως καὶ εὐλογίστως· “Ἄλλο δέ τι ἵσως ἐνεργητικὸν κωλυθήσεται;” ἀλλὰ τῇ πρὸς αὐτὸ τὸ κώλυμα εὑαρεστήσει καὶ τῇ ἐπὶ τὸ διδόμενον εὐγνώμονι μεταβάσει εὐθὺς ἄλλη πρᾶξις ἀντικαθίσταται ἐναρμόσουσα εἰς τὴν σύνθεσιν, περὶ ης ὁ λόγος.

λγ'. Ἀτύφως μὲν λαβεῖν, εὐλύτως δὲ ἀφεῖναι.

¹ <ἐπιγραφὰς> Breithaupt: Schenkl supplies αὐλᾶς with a lacuna after: perhaps τὸν ὅλης φυλῆς with Lofft's μηκέθ' ἐνὸς would give the meaning.

² πάσχει Α: παρέχει Ρ: ἀπέχει Schenkl.

³ ἀπέχῃ ΡΑ: παρέχῃ Morus.

⁴ A verb is missing, e.g. <διακεῖσθαι> Rend., <πράττειν> Morus.

BOOK VIII

30. Say thy say in the Senate or to any person whatsoever becomingly and naturally.¹ Use sound speech.

31. The court of Augustus—wife, daughter, descendants, ancestors, sister, Agrippa, kinsfolk, household, friends, Areius,² Maecenas, physicians, haruspices—dead, the whole court of them! Pass on then to other records and the death not of individuals but of a clan, as of the Pompeii. And that well-known epitaph, *Last of his race*—think over it and the anxiety shewn by the man's ancestors that they might leave a successor. But after all some one must be the last of the line—here again the death of a whole race!

32. Act by act thou must build up thy life, and be content, if each act as far as may be fulfils its end.³ And there is never a man that can prevent it doing this. *But there will be some impediment from without.* There can be none to thy behaving justly, soberly, wisely. *But what if some other exercise of activity be hindered?* Well, a cheerful acceptance of the hindrance and a tactful transition to what is allowed will enable another action to be substituted that will be in keeping with the built-up life of which we are speaking.

33. Accept without arrogance, surrender without reluctance.

¹ Dr. Bigg does not scruple to say that Marcus spoke in such a pedantic jargon as to be *unintelligible to his hearers!* This is pitiable nonsense. See Fronto, *ad Ant.* i. 1: *quanto studio quantoque favore et voluptate dicentem te audit senatus populusque Romanus*; *cp. ad Caes.* ii. 1.

² Domestic philosopher to Augustus, as Rusticus was to Marcus. See Them. *Orat.* v. 63 d; xiii. 173 c; Sen. *ad Marciam*, § 4.

³ Or, receives its due reward (*ἀπέχει*).

MARCUS AURELIUS

λδ. Εἴ ποτε εἰδεις χεῖρα ἀποκεκομμένην ἡ πόδα, ἢ κεφαλὴν ἀποτετμημένην χωρίς πού ποτε ἀπὸ τοῦ λοιποῦ σώματος κειμένην τοιοῦτον ἔαυτὸν ποιεῖ, ὅσον ἐφ' ἔαυτῷ, ὁ μὴ θέλων τὸ συμβαῖνον καὶ ἀποσχίζων ἔαυτὸν ἢ ὁ ἀκοινώητόν τι πράσσων. ἀπέρριψαι πού ποτε ἀπὸ τῆς κατὰ φύσιν ἐνώσεως ἐπεφύκεις γὰρ μέρος· νῦν <δὲ> σεαυτὸν ἀπέκοψας. ἀλλ' ὥδε κομψὸν ἐκεῖνο, ὅτι ἔξεστί σοι πάλιν ἐνώσαι σεαυτὸν. τοῦτο ἄλλῳ μέρει οὐδενὶ θεὸς ἐπέτρεψεν, χωρισθέντι καὶ διακοπέντι πάλιν συνελθεῖν. ἀλλὰ σκέψαι τὴν χρηστότητα, ἢ τετίμηκε τὸν ἄνθρωπον· καὶ γὰρ ἵνα τὴν ἀρχὴν μὴ ἀπορραγῇ ἀπὸ τοῦ ὅλου, ἐπ' αὐτῷ ἐποίησεν· καὶ ἀπορραγέντι πάλιν ἐπανελθεῖν καὶ συμφῦναι καὶ τὴν τοῦ μέρους τάξιν ἀπολαβεῖν ἐποίησεν.

λε'. "Ωσπερ τὰς ἄλλας δυνάμεις ἐκάστῳ¹ τῶν λογικῶν † σχεδὸν ὅσον †² ἡ τῶν λογικῶν φύσις, οὕτως καὶ ταύτην παρ' αὐτῆς εἰλήφαμεν. διν τρόπον γὰρ ἐκείνη πᾶν τὸ ἐνιστάμενον καὶ ἀντιθαῖνον ἐπιπεριτρέπει καὶ κατατάσσει εἰς τὴν είμαρμένην, καὶ μέρος ἔαυτῆς ποιεῖ, οὕτως καὶ τὸ λογικὸν ζῷον δύναται πᾶν κώλυμα ὑλην ἔαυτοῦ ποιεῖν, καὶ χρῆσθαι αὐτῷ, ἐφ' οἷον ἀν καὶ ὥρμησεν.

λτ'. Μή σε συγχείτω ἡ τοῦ ὅλου βίου φατσία. μὴ συμπερινόει, ἐπίπονα οīα καὶ ὅσα πιθανὸν ἐπιγεγενῆσθαι, ἀλλὰ καθ' ἔκαστον τῶν παρόντων ἐπερώτα σεαυτόν· τί τοῦ ἔργου τὸ ἀφόρητον καὶ ἀνύποιστον; αἰσχυνθήσῃ γὰρ

¹ ἔκαστος P.

² σχεδὸν δπον : ἐσκέδασεν Cor.: <ἔδωκεν> Schultz.

BOOK VIII

34. Thou hast seen a hand cut off or a foot, or a head severed from the trunk, and lying at some distance from the rest of the body. Just so does the man treat himself, as far as he may, who wills not what befalls and severs himself from mankind or acts unsocially. Say thou hast been torn away in some sort from the unity of Nature ; for by the law of thy birth thou wast a part ; but now thou hast cut thyself off. Yet here comes in that exquisite provision, that thou canst return again to thy unity.¹ To no other part has God granted this, to come together again, when once separated and cleft asunder. Aye, behold His goodness, wherewith He hath glorified man ! For He hath let it rest with a man that he be never rent away from the Whole, and if he do rend himself away, to return again and grow on to the rest and take up his position again as part.

35. Just as the Nature of rational things has given each rational being almost all his other powers, so also have we received this one from it ; that, as this Nature moulds to its purpose whatever interference or opposition it meets, and gives it a place in the destined order of things, and makes it a part of itself, so also can the rational creature convert every hindrance into material for itself² and utilize it for its own purposes.

36. Let not the mental picture of life as a whole confound thee. Fill not thy thoughts with what and how many ills may conceivably await thee, but in every present case ask thyself : *What is there in this experience so crushing, so insupportable ?* Thou wilt blush

¹ Sen. *Ep.* 98 : *licet in integrum restituī* (a legal phrase for a restoration to all rights).

² iv. 1 ; v. 20 ; vi. 50.

MARCUS AURELIUS

όμολογῆσαι. ἔπειτα ἀναμίμησκε σεαυτόν, ὅτι οὔτε τὸ μέλλον οὔτε τὸ παρωχηκὸς βαρεῖ σε ἀλλὰ ἀεὶ τὸ παρόν. τοῦτο δὲ κατασμικρύνεται, ἐὰν αὐτὸ μόνον περιορίσῃς καὶ ἀπελέγχῃς τὴν διάνοιαν, εἰ πρὸς τοῦτο ψιλὸν ἀντέχειν μὴ δύναται.

λξ'. Μήτι νῦν παρακάθηται τῇ τοῦ κυρίου¹ σορῷ Πάνθεια ἡ Πέργαμος; τί δὲ; τῇ Ἀδριανοῦ Χαβρίας ἡ Διότιμος; γελοῖον. τί δέ; εἰ παρεκάθηντο, ἔμελλον αἰσθάνεσθαι; τί δέ, εἰ ἡσθάνοντο, ἔμελλον ἡσθήσεσθαι; τί δέ, εἰ ἥδοντο, ἔμελλον οὕτοι ἀθάνατοι εἶναι; οὐ καὶ τούτους πρῶτουν μὲν γραίας καὶ γέροντας γενέσθαι οὕτως εἴμαρτο, εἴτα ἀποθανεῖν; τί οὖν ὑστερούν ἔμελλον ἐκεῖνοι ποιεῖν, τούτων ἀποθανόντων; γράσος πᾶν τοῦτο καὶ λύθρον ἐν θυλάκῳ.

λη'. Εἰ δύνασαι ὁξὺ βλέπειν, βλέπε,† “κρίνων,” φησί, “σοφώτατα.”†²

λθ'. Δικαιοσύνης κατεξαναστατικὴν ἀρετὴν οὐχ ὄρῳ ἐν τῇ τοῦ λογικοῦ ζώου κατασκευῇ ἥδονῆς δὲ ὄρῳ τὴν ἐγκράτειαν.

μ'. Ἐὰν ἀφέλης τὴν σὴν ὑπόληψιν περὶ τοῦ λυπεῖν σε δοκοῦντος, αὐτὸς ἐν τῷ ἀσφαλεστάτῳ ἔστηκας. “Τίς αὐτός;” ὁ λόγος. “Ἄλλ’ οὐκ εἴμι λόγος.” ἔστω. οὐκοῦν ὁ μὲν λόγος αὐτὸς ἔαυτὸν μὴ λυπείτω. εἰ δέ τι ἄλλο σοι κακῶς ἔχει, ὑπολαβέτω αὐτὸ περὶ αὐτοῦ.

¹ τοῦ κυρίου P: τοῦ κυροῦ A: [τοῦ] Οὐήρου Salm., but Marcus does not speak of Lucius as Verus.

² σοφωτάτοις P: σοφωτάτης (with δικαιοσύνης, § 39) A: σοφώτατα Xyl.

¹ See on vi. 29.

² Lucian (?) (*Imag.* §§ 10, 22), mentions Pantheia as the

BOOK VIII

to confess. Remind thyself further that it is not the future nor the past but the present always that brings thee its burden. But this is reduced to insignificance if thou isolate it, and take thy mind to task¹ if it cannot hold out against this mere trifle.

37. Does Pantheia² now watch by the urn of her lord, or Pergamus? What, does Chabrias or Diotimus by Hadrian's? Absurd! And had they sat there till now, would the dead have been aware of it? and, if aware of it, would they have been pleased? and, if pleased, would that have made the mourners immortal? Was it not destined that these like others should become old women and old men and then die? What then, when they were dead, would be left for those whom they had mourned to do? It is all stench and foul corruption 'in a sack of skin.'³

38. Hast thou keenness of sight? Use it *with judgment ever so wisely*, as the saying goes.

39. In the constitution of rational creatures I see no virtue incompatible with justice, but incompatible with pleasure I see—continence.

40. Take away thy opinion⁴ as to any imagined pain, and thou thyself art set in surest safety. *What is 'thyself'?* Reason. *But I am not reason.* Be it so. At all events let the Reason not cause itself pain, but if any part in thee is amiss, let it form its own opinion about itself.⁵

matchless concubine of τῷ ιεγάλῳ Βασιλεῖ χρήστῳ καὶ ἡμέρῳ ὅντι (meaning apparently Lucius Verus). Lucian (*Nigr.* § 31) speaks of οἱ κελεύοντες καὶ παραμένειν τινὰς οἰκέτας τοῖς τάφοις.

³ Epict. *Frag.* 94. cp. Diog. Laert. *Anaxarchus*, § 2; Zeno *Eleat.* § 5. Howell, *Familiar Letters*, viii. 2, 50, speaks of "this small skinful or bagful of bones."

⁴ vii. 16; viii. 47.

⁵ vii. 33.

MARCUS AURELIUS

μα'. Ἐμποδισμὸς αἰσθήσεως κακὸν ζωτικῆς φύσεως· ἐμποδισμὸς ὄρμῆς ὁμοίως κακὸν ζωτικῆς φύσεως. ἔστι δέ τι· ἀλλο ὁμοίως ἐμποδιστικὸν καὶ κακὸν τῆς φυτικῆς κατασκευῆς. οὕτως τοίνυν ἐμποδισμὸς νοῦ κακὸν νοερᾶς φύσεως. πάντα δὴ ταῦτα ἐπὶ σεαυτὸν μετάφερε. πόνος <ἢ> ἡδονὴ ἅπτεταιί σου; ὅψεται ἡ αἰσθησις. ὄρμῆσαντι ἔνστημα ἐγένετο; εἰ μὲν ἀνυπεξαιρέτως ὄρμᾶς, ἥδη ως λογικοῦ κακόν. εἰ δὲ τὸ κοινὸν λαμβάνεις, οὕπω βέβλαψαι οὐδὲ ἐμπεπόδισαι. τὰ μέντοι τοῦ νοῦ ἵδια οὐδεὶς ἀλλος εἴωθεν ἐμποδίζειν τούτου γὰρ οὐ πῦρ, οὐ σίδηρος, οὐ τύραννος, οὐ βλασφημία, οὐχ ὅτιοῦν ἅπτεται· “ὅταν γένηται σφαῖρος, κυκλοτερῆς μένει.†”¹

μβ'. Οὐκ εἰμὶ ἄξιος ἐμαυτὸν λυπεῖν· οὐδὲ γὰρ ἀλλον πώποτε ἐκῶν ἐλύπησα.

μγ'. Εὐφραίνει ἀλλον ἀλλο· ἐμὲ δέ, ἐὰν ὑγιὲς ἔχω τὸ ἡγεμονικόν, μὴ ἀποστρεφόμενον μήτε ἄνθρωπόν τινα μήτε <τι> τῶν ἀνθρώπων συμβαινόντων· ἀλλὰ πᾶν εὔμενέσιν ὀφθαλμοῖς. ὄρῶν τε καὶ δεχόμενον καὶ χρώμενον ἐκάστῳ κατ' ἀξίαν.

μδ'. Τοῦτον² ἴδου τὸν χρόνον σεαυτῷ χάρισαι. οἱ τὴν ὑστεροφημίαν μᾶλλον διώκοντες οὐ λογίζονται, ὅτι ἀλλοι τοιοῦτοι μέλλουσιν ἐκεῖνοι εἶναι, οἷοι εἰσιν οὗτοι, οὓς βαροῦνται· κάκεῖνοι

¹ μονίῃ Rend. (cp. xii. 3): by changing *σφαῖρος* to *σφαῖρα* (xi. 12) we get a senarius. ² τούτον δὴ Leop.

BOOK VIII

41. To the animal nature a thwarting of sense-perception is an evil, as is also to the same nature the thwarting of impulse. There is similarly some other thing that can thwart the constitution of plants and is an evil to them. Thus then the thwarting of intelligence is an evil to the intelligent nature. Transfer the application of all this to thyself. Does pain, does pleasure take hold of thee? The senses shall look to it. Wast thou impelled to a thing and wast thwarted? If thy impulse counts on an unconditional fulfilment, failure at once becomes an evil to thee as a rational creature. But accept the universal limitation, and thou hast so far received no hurt nor even been thwarted.¹ Indeed no one else is in a way to thwart the inner purposes of the mind. For it no fire can touch, nor steel, nor tyrant, nor obloquy,² nor any thing soever: *a sphere³ once formed continues round and true.*

42. It were not right that I should pain myself for not even another have I ever knowingly pained.⁴

43. One thing delights one, another thing another. To me it is a delight if I keep my ruling Reason sound, not looking askance at man or anything that befalls man, but regarding all things with kindly eyes, accepting and using everything for its intrinsic worth.

44. See thou dower thyself with this present time. Those that yearn rather for after-fame do not realize that their successors are sure to be very much the same as the contemporaries whom they find such a

¹ vi. 50. ² vii. 68; Epict. iii. 22. 43. ³ xi. 12; xii. 3.
⁴ cp. Them. *Orat.* xv. p. 191 B, quoted App. ii.; cp. Diog. Laert. Zeno 64.

MARCUS AURELIUS

δὲ θυητοί. τί δὲ ὅλως πρὸς σέ, ἀν ἐκεῖνοι φωναῖς τοιαύταις ἀπηχῶσιν ἢ ὑπόληψιν τοιαύτην περὶ σοῦ ἔχωσιν;

μέ. Ἀρόν με καὶ βάλε, ὅπου θέλεις. ἐκεῖ¹ γὰρ ἔξω τὸν ἐμὸν δαίμονα ἵλεων, τουτέστιν ἀρκούμενον, εἰ ἔχοι καὶ ἐνεργοίη κατὰ τὸ ἔξῆς τῇ ἴδιᾳ κατασκευῇ.

2 ¹Αρα τοῦτο ἄξιον, ἵνα δὶ' αὐτὸ κακῶς μοι ἔχῃ ἡ ψυχὴ καὶ χείρων ἑαυτῆς ἢ ταπεινουμένη, ὀρεγομένη, συνδυομένη,²† πτυρομένη; καὶ τί εὐρήσεις τούτου ἄξιον;

μζ'. Ἀνθρώπῳ οὐδενὶ συμβαίνειν τι δύναται, ὃ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀνθρωπικὸν σύμπτωμα· οὐδὲ βοί, ὃ οὐκ ἔστι βοϊκόν· οὐδὲ ἀμπέλῳ, ὃ οὐκ ἔστιν ἀμπελικόν· οὐδὲ λίθῳ, ὃ οὐκ ἔστι λίθου ἴδιον. εἰ οὖν ἔκαστῳ συμβαίνει, ὃ καὶ εἴωθε καὶ πέφυκε, τί ἀν δυσχεραίνοις; οὐ γὰρ ἀφόρητόν σοι ἔφερεν ἡ κοινὴ φύσις.

μζ'. Εἰ μὲν διά τι τῶν ἔκτὸς λυπῆ, οὐκ ἐκεῖνό σοι ἐνοχλεῖ, ἀλλὰ τὸ σὸν περὶ αὐτοῦ κρῆμα. τοῦτο δὲ ἥδη ἔξαλεῖψαι ἐπὶ σοί ἔστιν. εἰ δὲ λυπεῖ σέ τι τῶν ἐν τῇ σῇ διαθέσει, τίς ο κωλύων διορθῶσαι τὸ δόγμα; ὅμως δὲ καὶ εἰ λυπῆ, ὅτι οὐχὶ τόδε τι ἐνεργεῖς ὑγιές σοι φαινόμενον, τί οὐχὶ μᾶλλον ἐνεργεῖς ἢ λυπῆ; “Ἀλλὰ ἰσχυρότερόν τι ἐνίσταται.” μὴ οὖν λυποῦ· οὐ γὰρ παρὰ σὲ ἡ αἰτία τοῦ μὴ ἐνεργεῖσθαι. “Ἀλλὰ οὐκ ἄξιον ζῆν μὴ ἐνεργουμένου τούτου.”

¹ κἀκεῖ Kron.

² συνδεομένη Gat.

BOOK VIII

burden, and no less mortal. What is it anyway to thee if there be this or that far-off echo of their voices, or if they have this or that opinion about thee?

45. Take me up and cast me where thou wilt. For even there will I keep my 'genius' tranquil, that is, content if in itself and in its activity it follow the laws of its own constitution.

Is this worth while, that on its account my soul should be ill at ease and fall below itself, grovelling, grasping, floundering, affrighted? What could make it worth while?

46. Nothing can befall a man that is not a contingency natural to man; nor befall an ox, that is not natural to oxen, nor a vine that is not natural to a vine, nor a stone that is not proper to it. If therefore only what is natural and customary befalls each, why be aggrieved? For the common Nature brings thee nothing that thou canst not bear.¹

47. When thou art vexed at some external cross, it is not the thing itself that troubles thee,² but thy judgment on it. And this thou canst annul in a moment. But if thou art vexed at something in thine own character, who can prevent thee from rectifying the principle that is to blame?³ So also if thou art vexed⁴ at not undertaking that which seems to thee a sound act, why not rather undertake it than be vexed? *But there is a lion in the path!* Be not vexed then, for the blame of inaction rests not with thee. *But life is not worth living, this left undone.* Depart

¹ cp. St. Paul, 1 Cor. x. 13.

² cp. Epict. *Man.* 5.

³ viii. 40.

⁴ v. 9, 36; viii. 10; xi. 19.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἀπιθι οὖν ἐκ τοῦ ζῆν εὔμενής, ή καὶ ὁ ἐνεργῶν ἀποθνήσκει, ἅμα ἵλεως τοῖς ἐνισταμένοις.

μη'. Μέμνησο, ὅτι ἀκαταμάχητον γίνεται τὸ ἡγεμονικόν, ὅταν εἰς ἑαυτὸ συστραφὲν ἀρκεσθῇ ἑαυτῷ μὴ ποιοῦντι, ὃ μὴ θέλει, καν ἀλόγως παρατάξηται. τί οὖν, ὅταν καὶ μετὰ λόγου <καὶ> περιεσκεμμένως κρίνῃ περὶ τινος; διὰ τοῦτο ἀκρόπολίς ἔστιν ἡ ἐλευθέρα παθῶν διάνοια· οὐδὲν γὰρ ὄχυρώτερον ἔχει ἀνθρωπος, ἐφ' ὃ καταφυγῶν ἀνάλωτος λοιπὸν ἀν εἴη. ὁ μὲν οὖν μὴ ἔωρακὼς τοῦτο ἀμαθής· ὁ δὲ ἔωρακὼς καὶ μὴ καταφεύγων ἀτυχής.

μθ'. Μηδὲν πλέον σαυτῷ λέγε, ὡν αἱ πρηγούμεναι φαντασίαι ἀναγγέλλουσιν. ἥγγελται, ὅτι ὁ δεῖνά σε κακῶς λέγει. ἥγγελται τοῦτο· τὸ δέ, ὅτι βέβλαψαι, οὐκ ἥγγελται. βλέπω ὅτι νοσεῖ τὸ παιδίον. βλέπω· ὅτι δὲ κινδυνεύει οὐ βλέπω. οὕτως οὖν μένε ἀεὶ ἐπὶ τῶν πρώτων φαντασιῶν, καὶ μηδὲν αὐτὸς ἔνδοθεν ἐπίλεγε, καὶ οὐδέν σοι γίνεται· μᾶλλον δὲ ἐπίλεγε, ώς γνωρίζων ἔκαστα τῶν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ συμβαινόντων.

ν'. “Σίκυος πικρός.” ἄφες. “Βάτοι ἐν τῇ ὁδῷ.”¹ ἔκκλινον. ἀρκεῖ. μὴ προσεπείπης² “Τί δὲ καὶ ἐγίνετο ταῦτα ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ;” ἐπεὶ καταγελασθήσῃ ὑπὸ ἀνθρώπου φυσιολόγου, ώς ἀν καὶ ὑπὸ τέκτονος καὶ σκυτέως γελασθείης καταγινώσκων, ὅτι ἐν τῷ ἐργαστηρίῳ ἔσεματα καὶ περιτμήματα

¹ iii. 1 ; v. 29 ; Epict. i. 24, § 20.

² vii. 28.

³ xi. 3. In both places Marcus seems to have the Christians in mind.

⁴ cp. Fronto, ad Ver. ii. 1 (of Marcus) : *arcem munitam et invictam et inexpugnabilem quae in fratribus tuis pectore sita est.*

BOOK VIII

then from life,¹ dying with the same kindly feelings as he who effects his purpose, and accepting with a good grace the obstacles that thwart thee.

48. Never forget that the ruling Reason shews itself unconquerable when, concentrated in itself,² it is content with itself so it do nothing that it doth not will, even if it refuse from mere opposition³ and not from reason—much more, then, if it judge of a thing on reasonable grounds and advisedly. Therefore the Mind, unmastered by passions, is a very citadel, for a man has no fortress more impregnable⁴ wherein to find refuge and be untaken for ever. He indeed who hath not seen this is ignorant, but he that hath seen it and takes not refuge therein is luckless.

49. Say no more to thyself than what the initial impressions report.⁵ This has been told thee, that so and so speaks ill of thee. This *has* been told thee, but it has not been told thee that thou art harmed.⁶ I see that my child is ailing. I see it, but I do not see that he is in danger. Keep then ever to first impressions and supplement them not on thy part from within, and nothing⁷ happens to thee. And yet do supplement them with this, that thou art familiar with every possible contingency in the world.

50. *The gherkin is bitter.* Toss it away. *There are briars in the path.* Turn aside. That suffices, and thou needest not to add: *Why are such things found in the world?* For thou wouldest be a laughing stock to any student of nature; just as thou wouldest be laughed at by a carpenter and a cobbler if thou tookest them to task because in their shops are seen sawdust and parings from what they are

⁵ iv. 7 etc. ⁶ Yet Capit. (xx. § 5) says that Marcus was *suae curiosissimus famae*, cp. *ibid.* xxii. § 6; xxiii. § 7, 9; xxix. § 5. ⁷ cp. viii. 28.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τῶν κατασκευαζομένων ὄράς. καίτοι ἐκεῖνοί γε
ἔχουσι, ποῦ αὐτὰ ρίψωσιν· ή δὲ τῶν ὅλων φύσις
ἔξω οὐδὲν ᔁχεῖ· ἀλλὰ τὸ θαυμαστὸν τῆς τέχνης
ταύτης ἐστίν, ὅτι περιορίσασα ἑαυτὴν πᾶν τὸ
ἔνδον διαφθείρεσθαι καὶ γηράσκειν καὶ ἄχρηστον
εἶναι δοκοῦν, εἰς ἑαυτὴν μεταβάλλει, καὶ ὅτι
πάλιν ἄλλα νεαρὰ ἐκ τούτων αὐτῶν ποιεῖ· ἵνα
μήτε οὐσίας ἔξωθεν χρήζῃ μήτε, ὅπου ἐκβάλῃ τὰ
σαπρότερα, προσδέηται. ἀρκεῖται οὖν καὶ χώρᾳ
τῇ ἑαυτῆς καὶ ὥλῃ τῇ ἑαυτῆς καὶ τέχνῃ τῇ ἴδιᾳ.

να'. Μήτε ἐν ταῖς πράξεσιν ἐπισύρειν μήτε
ἐν ταῖς ὁμιλίαις φύρειν μήτε ἐν ταῖς φαντασίαις
ἀλλάσθαι· μήτε τῇ ψυχῇ καθάπαξ συνέλκεσθαι
ἢ ἐκθόρυνσθαι· μήτε ἐν τῷ βίῳ ἀσχολεῖσθαι.

2 “Κτείνουσι, κρεανομοῦσι, κατάραις ἐλαύνουσι.”
τί οὖν ταῦτα πρὸς τὸ τὴν διάνοιαν μένειν
καθαράν, φρενήρη, σώφρονα, δικαίαν; οἷον εἴ τις
παραστὰς πηγὴν διαυγεῖ καὶ γλυκείᾳ βλασφημοίη
αὐτήν, ή δὲ οὐ παύεται πότιμον ἀναβλύζουσα·
κὰν πηλὸν ἐμβάλῃ, κὰν κοπρίαν, τάχιστα
διασκεδάσει αὐτὰ καὶ ἐκκλύσει καὶ οὐδαμῶς
βαφήσεται. πῶς οὖν πηγὴν ἀέναον ἔξεις καὶ μὴ
φρέαρ¹; ἀν φυλάσσης σεαυτὸν πάσης ὥρας εἰς
ἐλευθερίαν μετὰ τοῦ εὐμενῶς καὶ ἀπλῶς καὶ
αἰδημονῶς.

νβ. ‘Ο μὲν μὴ εἰδώς, ὃ τι ἐστὶν κόσμος, οὐκ
οἶδεν, ὅπου ἐστίν. ὁ δὲ μὴ εἰδὼς πρὸς ὃ τι
πέφυκεν, οὐκ οἶδεν ὅστις ἐστίν, οὐδὲ τί ἐστι
κόσμος. ὁ δὲ ἐν τι τούτων ἀπολιπὼν οὐδὲ πρὸς

¹ καὶ μὴ φρέαρ omit AD; ἀν φυλάσσης AD; φύου P.

¹ Or, for space, material, craftsmanship she is content with herself alone.

BOOK VIII

making. And yet *they* have space for the disposal of their fragments; while the Universal Nature has nothing outside herself; but the marvel of her craftsmanship is that, though she is limited to herself, she transmutes into her own substance all that within her seems to be perishing and decrepit and useless, and again from these very things produces other new ones; whereby she shews that she neither wants any substance outside herself nor needs a corner where she may cast her decaying matter. Her own space, her own material, her own proper craftsmanship is all that she requires.¹

51. Be not dilatory in doing, nor confused in conversation, nor vague in thought; let not thy soul be wholly concentrated in itself nor uncontrollably agitated; leave thyself leisure in thy life.

*They kill us, they cut us limb from limb, they hunt us with execrations!*² How does that prevent thy mind being still pure, sane, sober, just? Imagine a man to stand by a crystal-clear spring of sweet water, and to rail at it; yet it fails not to bubble up with wholesome water. Throw in mud or even filth and it will quickly winnow them away and purge itself of them and take never a stain. How then possess thyself of a living fountain and no mere well?³ By guiding thyself carefully every hour into freedom with kindness, simplicity, and modesty.

52. He that knoweth not what the Universe is knoweth not where he is. He that knoweth not the end of its being knoweth not who he is or what the Universe is.⁴ But he that is wanting in the knowledge of any

² Marcus must be thinking of the Christians. *cp. vii. 68.*
See Appendix. ³ St. John, iv. 14-16.

⁴ *cp. Epict. ii. 24, § 19.*

MARCUS AURELIUS

ὅ τι αὐτὸς πέφυκεν εἴποι. τίς οὖν φαινεταί σοι
ό τὸν τῶν κροτούντων ἔπαινον φεύγων ἢ διώκων,^{†¹}
οἱ οὐθ' ὅπου εἰσὶν οὕτε οἵτινές εἰσι γινώσκουσιν;

νγ'. Ἐπαινεῖσθαι θέλεις ὑπὸ ἀνθρώπου τρὶς
τῆς ὥρας ἑαυτῷ καταρωμένου; ἀρέσκειν θέλεις
ἀνθρώπῳ, ὃς οὐκ ἀρέσκει ἑαυτῷ; ἀρέσκει ἑαυτῷ
ὁ μετανοῶν ἐφ' ἄπασι σχεδόν, οἷς πράσσει;

νδ'. Μηκέτι μόνον συμπνεῖν τῷ περιέχοντι
ἀέρι, ἀλλ' ἡδη καὶ συμφρονεῖν τῷ περιέχοντι
πάντα νοερῷ. οὐ γὰρ ἡττον ἡ νοερὰ δύναμις πάντη
κέχυται καὶ διαπεφοίτηκε τῷ σπάσαι δυναμένῳ,
ἡπερ ἡ ἀερώδης τῷ ἀναπνεῦσαι δυναμένῳ.

νε'. Γενικῶς μὲν ἡ κακία οὐδὲν βλάπτει τὸν
κόσμον, ἡ δὲ κατὰ μέρος οὐδὲν βλάπτει τὸν
ἔτερον. μόνῳ δὲ βλαβερά ἐστι τούτῳ, φῶς ἐπι-
τέτραπται καὶ ἀπηλλάχθαι αὐτῆς, ὅπόταν πρῶτον
οὗτος θελήσῃ.

νς'. Τῷ ἐμῷ προαιρετικῷ τὸ τοῦ πλησίον
προαιρετικὸν ἐπίσης ἀδιάφορόν ἐστιν, ώς καὶ τὸ
πνευμάτιον αὐτοῦ καὶ τὸ σαρκίδιον. καὶ γὰρ εἰ
ὅτι μάλιστα ἀλλήλων ἔνεκεν γεγόναμεν, δῆμος τὰ
ἡγεμονικὰ ἡμῶν ἔκαστον τὴν ἴδιαν κυρίαν ἔχει
ἐπεί τοι ἔμελλεν ἡ τοῦ πλησίον κακία ἐμοῦ κακὸν
εἶναι· ὅπερ οὐκ ἔδοξε τῷ θεῷ, ἵνα μὴ ἐπ' ἄλλῳ ἦ
τὸ ἐμὲ ἀτυχεῖν.

νζ'. Ὁ ἥλιος κατακεχύσθαι δοκεῖ, καὶ πάντη
γε κέχυται, οὐ μὴν ἐκκέχυται. ἡ γὰρ χύσις αὕτη

¹ ἡ δίων (δίω Α) ἢ Ρ: διώκων Cas.: ἡ ψόγον φεύγων ἢ ἔπαινον
διώκων Gat.

BOOK VIII

of these things could not tell what is the end of his own being. What then must we think of those that court or eschew the verdict of the clappers, who have no conception where or who they are?

53. Carest thou to be praised by a man who execrates himself thrice within the hour? to win the approval of a man who wins not his own? Can he be said to win his own approval who regrets almost every thing he does?

54. Be no longer content merely to breathe in unison with the all-embracing air, but from this moment think also in unison with the all-embracing Intelligence. For that intelligent faculty is everywhere diffused and offers itself on every side to him that can take it in no less than the aerial to him that can breathe.

55. Taken collectively wickedness does no harm to the Universe,¹ and the particular wickedness does no harm to others. It is harmful to the one individual alone, and he has been given the option of being quit of it the first moment he pleases.

56. To my power of choice² the power of choice of my neighbour is as much a matter of indifference as is his vital breath and his flesh. For however much we may have been made for one another, yet our ruling Reason is in each case master in its own house. Else might my neighbour's wickedness become my bane; and this was not God's will, that another might not have my unhappiness in his keeping.³

57. The sun's light is diffused down, as it seems, yes, and in every direction, yet it does not diffuse itself away. For this diffusion is an extension. At any

¹ v. 35. ² Not distinguishable from the 'ruling Reason.'

³ Sen. Ep. 70 ad med. : *nemo nisi vitio suo miser est.*

MARCUS AURELIUS

τάσις ἔστιν. “ἀκτῖνες” γοῦν αἱ αὐγαὶ αὐτοῦ ἀπὸ τοῦ “ἐκτείνεσθαι” λέγονται. ὅποιον δέ τι ἔστιν ἀκτίς, ἵδοις ἄν, εἰ διά τινος στενοῦ εἰς ἐσκιασμένον οἶκον τὸ ἀφ' ἡλίου φῶς εἰσδυόμενον θεάσαιο· τείνεται¹ γὰρ κατ' εὐθύ, καὶ ὥσπερ διερείδεται² πρὸς τὸ στερέμνιον, ὃ τι ἀν ἀπαντήσῃ, διεῖργον τὸν ἐπέκεινα ἀέρα· ἐνταῦθα δὲ ἔστη καὶ οὐ κατώλισθεν οὐδὲ ἔπεσεν. τοιαύτην οὖν τὴν χύσιν καὶ διάχυσιν τῆς διανοίας εἴναι χρή, μηδαμῶς ἔκχυσιν ἀλλὰ τάσιν καὶ πρὸς τὰ ἀπαντῶντα κωλύματα μὴ βίαιον μηδὲ ῥαγδαίαν τὴν ἐπέρεισιν ποιεῖσθαι· μηδὲ μὴν καταπίπτειν, ἀλλὰ ἴστασθαι καὶ ἐπιλάμπειν τὸ δεχόμενον. αὐτὸς γὰρ ἑαυτὸς στερήσει τῆς αὐγῆς τὸ μὴ παραπέμπον αὐτήν.

νη'. ‘Ο τὸν θάνατον φοβούμενος ἦτοι ἀναισθησίαν φοβεῖται ἢ αἰσθησιν ἐτεροίαν. ἀλλ’ εἴτε οὐκέτι αἰσθησιν οὐδὲ κακοῦ τινος αἰσθήσῃ· εἴτε ἀλλοιοτέραν αἰσθησιν κτήσῃ, ἀλλοῖον ζῷον ἔσῃ καὶ τοῦ ζῆν οὐ παύσῃ.

νθ'. Οἱ ἄνθρωποι γεγόνασιν ἀλλήλων ἔνεκεν. ἢ δίδασκε οὖν ἢ φέρε.

ξ. ‘Αλλως βέλος, ἄλλως νοῦς φέρεται· ὁ μέντοι νοῦς, καὶ ὅταν εὐλαβῆται καὶ ὅταν περὶ τὴν σκέψιν στρέφηται, φέρεται κατ' εὐθὺ οὐδὲν ἥττον καὶ ἐπὶ τὸ προκείμενον.

ξα'. Εἰσιέναι εἰς τὸ ἡγεμονικὸν ἐκάστου· παρέχειν δὲ καὶ ἐτέρῳ παντὶ εἰσιέναι εἰς τὸ ἑαυτοῦ ἡγεμονικόν.

¹ τείνεται Cor. for γίνεται. ² διερείδεται Reiske : διαιρεῖται P.A.

¹ A false etymology. The derivation may be from ἀισθω or ἄγνυμι.

BOOK VIII

rate the beams of the Sun are called *Extension rays*, because they have an *extension* in space.¹ And what a ray is you may easily see, if you observe the sun's light entering through a narrow chink into a darkened room, for it extends straight on, and is as it were brought up against² any solid body it encounters that cuts off the air beyond. There the ray comes to a standstill, neither slipping off nor sinking down. Such then should be the diffusion and circumfusion of the mind, never a diffusing away but extension, and it should never make a violent or uncontrollable impact against any obstacle it meets with, no, nor collapse, but stand firm and illuminate what receives it. For that which conducts it not on its way will deprive itself wilfully of its beams.

58. Dread of death is a dread of non-sensation or new sensation.³ But either thou wilt feel no sensation, and so no sensation of any evil; or a different kind of sensation will be thine, and so the life of a different creature, but still a life.

59. Mankind have been created for the sake of one another.⁴ Either instruct therefore or endure.⁵

60. One is the way of an arrow, another of the mind. Howbeit the mind, both when it cautiously examines its ground and when it is engaged in its enquiry, is none the less moving straight forward and towards its goal.

61. Enter into every man's ruling Reason, and give every one else an opportunity to enter into thine.⁶

² διαιρέται (mss.) would mean apparently *cut* or *broken*.

³ cp. Justin, *Apol.* i. § 57, addressed to Pius and Marcus.

⁴ ix. 1 *ad init.* ⁵ v. 28; ix. 11.

⁶ iv. 38. cp. vii. 55; Epict. iii. 9, § 12.

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ Θ

a'. Ὁ ἀδικῶν ἀσεβεῖ. τῆς γὰρ τῶν ὅλων φύσεως κατεσκευακούιας τὰ λογικὰ ζῶα ἔνεκεν ἀλλήλων, ὥστε ὡφελεῦν μὲν ἄλληλὰ κατ' ἀξίαν, βλάπτειν δὲ μηδαμῶς, ὁ τὸ βούλημα ταύτης παραβαίνων ἀσεβεῖ δηλονότι εἰς τὴν πρεσβυτάτην τῶν θεῶν.

- 2 Καὶ ὁ ψευδόμενος δὲ ἀσεβεῖ περὶ τὴν αὐτὴν θεόν. ἡ γὰρ τῶν ὅλων φύσις ὅντων ἐστὶ φύσις. τὰ δέ γε ὅντα πρὸς τὰ ὑπάρχοντα πάντα οἰκείως ἔχει. ἔτι δὲ καὶ ἀλήθεια αὕτη ὀνομάζεται καὶ τῶν ἀληθῶν ἀπάντων πρώτη αἰτία ἐστίν. ὁ μὲν οὖν ἐκῶν ψευδόμενος ἀσεβεῖ, καθόσον ἔξαπατῶν ἀδικεῖ· ὁ δὲ ἄκων, καθόσον διαφωνεῖ τῇ τῶν ὅλων φύσει, καὶ καθόσον ἀκοσμεῖ μαχόμενος τῇ τοῦ κόσμου φύσει· μάχεται γὰρ ὁ ἐπὶ τάναντίᾳ τοῖς ἀληθέσι φερόμενος παρ' ἑαυτόν· ἀφορμὰς γὰρ προειλήφει παρὰ τῆς φύσεως, ὡν ἀμελήσας οὐχ οἷos τέ ἐστι νῦν διακρίνειν τὰ ψευδῆ ἀπὸ τῶν ἀληθῶν.*
- 3 Καὶ μὴν ὁ τὰς ἡδονὰς ὡς ἀγαθὰ διώκων τοὺς δὲ πόνους ὡς κακὰ φεύγων ἀσεβεῖ. ἀνάγκη*

BOOK IX

1. INJUSTICE is impiety. For in that the Nature of the Universe has fashioned rational creatures for the sake of one another¹ with a view to mutual benefit based upon worth, but by no means for harm, the transgressor of her will acts with obvious impiety against the most venerable of Deities.

And the liar too acts impiously with respect to the same Goddess. For the Nature of the Universe is the Nature of the things that are. And the things that are have an intimate connexion with all the things that have ever been. Moreover this Nature is named Truth, and is the primary cause of all that is true. The willing liar then is impious in so far as his deceit is a wrong-doing; and the unwilling liar too, for he is out of tune with the Nature of the Whole, and an element of disorder by being in conflict with the Nature of an orderly Universe; for he is in conflict who allows himself, as far as his conduct goes, to be carried into opposition to what is true. And whereas he had previously been endowed by nature with the means of distinguishing false from true, by neglecting to use them he has lost the power.²

Again he acts impiously who seeks after pleasure as a good thing and eschews pain as an evil. For

¹ v. 30; viii. 59.

² vii. 2.

MARCUS AURELIUS

γὰρ τὸν τοιοῦτον μέμφεσθαι πολλάκις τῇ κοινῇ φύσει, ὡς παρ' ἀξίαν τι ἀπονεμούσῃ τοῖς φαύλοις καὶ τοῖς σπουδαίοις, διὰ τὸ πολλάκις τοὺς μὲν φαύλους ἐν ἡδοναῖς εἶναι καὶ τὰ ποιητικὰ τούτων κτᾶσθαι, τοὺς δὲ σπουδαίους πόνῳ καὶ τοῖς ποιητικοῖς τούτου περιπίπτειν. ἔτι δὲ ὁ φοβούμενος τοὺς πόνους, φοβηθήσεται ποτε καὶ τῶν ἐσομένων τι ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ· τοῦτο δὲ ἥδη ἀσεβές. ὅ τε διώκων τὰς ἡδονὰς οὐκ ἀφέξεται τοῦ ἀδικεῖν· τοῦτο δὲ ἐναργῶς ἀσεβές.

4 Χρὴ δέ, πρὸς ἣ κοινὴ φύσις ἐπίσης ἔχει (οὐ γὰρ ἀν ἀμφότερα ἐποίει, εἰ μὴ πρὸς ἀμφότερα ἐπίσης εἶχε), πρὸς ταῦτα καὶ τοὺς τῇ φύσει βουλομένους ἔπεσθαι ὁμογνώμονας δυτας ἐπίσης διακεῖσθαι· δστις οὖν πρὸς πόνον καὶ ἡδονὴν ἡ θάνατον καὶ ζωὴν ἡ δόξαν καὶ ἀδοξίαν, οἷς ἐπίσης ἡ τῶν ὅλων φύσις χρῆται, αὐτὸς οὐκ ἐπίσης ἔχει, δῆλον ὡς ἀσεβεῖ. λέγω δὲ τὸ χρῆσθαι τούτοις ἐπίσης τὴν κοινὴν φύσιν, ἀντὶ τοῦ πάντα¹ συμβαίνειν ἐπίσης κατὰ τὸ ἔξῆς τοῖς γινομένοις καὶ ἐπιγινομένοις ὄρμῇ τινι ἀρχαίᾳ τῆς προνοίας, καθ' ἣν ἀπό τινος ἀρχῆς ὄρμησεν ἐπὶ τήνδε τὴν διακόσμησιν συλλαβοῦσά τινας λόγους τῶν ἐσομένων καὶ δυνάμεις γονίμους ἀφορίσασα ὑποστάσεών τε καὶ μεταβολῶν καὶ διαδοχῶν τοιούτων.

β'. Χαριεστέρου μὲν ἡν ἀνδρὸς ἄγευστον ψευδολογίας καὶ πάσης ὑποκρίσεως καὶ τρυφῆς

¹ τοῦ κατὰ τὸ P: em. Schenkl.

BOOK IX

such a man must inevitably find frequent fault with the Universal Nature¹ as unfair in its apportionments to the worthless and the worthy, since the worthless are often lapped in pleasures and possess the things that make for pleasure, while the worthy meet with pain and the things that make for pain. Moreover he that dreads pain will some day be in dread of something that must be in the world. And there we have impiety at once. And he that hunts after pleasures will not hold his hand from injustice. And this is palpable impiety.

But those, who are of one mind with Nature and would walk in her ways, must hold a neutral attitude² towards those things towards which the Universal Nature is neutral—for she would not be the Maker of both were she not neutral towards both. So he clearly acts with impiety who is not himself neutral towards pain and pleasure, death and life, good report and ill report, things which the Nature of the Universe treats with neutrality. And by the Universal Nature treating these with neutrality I mean that all things happen neutrally in a chain of sequence³ to things that come into being and their after products⁴ by some primeval impulse of Providence,⁵ in accordance with which She was impelled by some primal impulse to this making of an ordered Universe, when She had conceived certain principles for all that was to be, and allocated the powers generative of substances and changes and successions such as we see.

2. It were more graceful doubtless for a man to depart from mankind untainted with falsehood and

¹ vi. 16 *ad fin.* 41. cp. Epict. i. 6, § 39.

² Or, *attitude of indifference.* ³ viii. 75.

⁴ Or, *that are consequent upon some primal impulse.* Providence here = *κοινὴ φύσις.* ⁵ ix. 28.

MARCUS AURELIUS

καὶ τύφου γενόμενον ἐξ ἀνθρώπων ἀπελθεῖν· τὸ δ' οὖν κορεσθέντα γε τούτων ἀποπνεῦσαι 'δεύτερος πλοῦς.' ἡ προήρησαι προσκαθῆσθαι τῇ κακίᾳ, καὶ οὕπω σε οὐδὲ ἡ πεῖρα πείθει φεύγειν ἐκ τοῦ λοιμοῦ; λοιμὸς γάρ διαφθορὰ διανοίας πολλῷ γε μᾶλλον ἥπερ ἡ τοῦ περικεχυμένου τούτου πνεύματος τοιάδε τις δυσκρασία καὶ τροπή· αὗτη μὲν γάρ ζῷων λοιμός, καθὸ ζῷα ἔστιν ἐκείνη δὲ ἀνθρώπων, καθὸ ἄνθρωποί εἰσιν.

γ'. Μὴ καταφρόνει θανάτου, ἀλλὰ εὐαρέστει αὐτῷ ώς καὶ τούτου ἑνὸς ὅντος, ὃν ἡ φύσις ἐθέλει. οἶον γάρ ἔστι τὸ νεάσαι, καὶ τὸ γηράσαι, καὶ τὸ αὐξῆσαι, καὶ τὸ ἀκμάσαι, καὶ ὁδόντας καὶ γένειον καὶ πολιὰς ἐνεγκεῖν, καὶ σπεῖραι, καὶ κυοφορῆσαι, καὶ ἀποκυῆσαι, καὶ τὰ ἄλλα τὰ φυσικὰ ἐνεργήματα, ὅσα αἱ τοῦ σοῦ βίου ὥραι φέρουσι, τοιοῦτο καὶ τὸ διαλυθῆναι. τοῦτο μὲν οὖν κατὰ ἄνθρωπόν ἔστι λελογισμένον, μὴ ὄλοσχερῶς μηδὲ ὠστικῶς μηδὲ ὑπερηφάνως πρὸς τὸν θάνατον ἔχειν, ἀλλὰ περιμένειν ώς μίαν τῶν φυσικῶν ἐνεργειῶν. καὶ ώς νῦν περιμένεις, πότε ἔμβρυον ἐκ τῆς γαστρὸς τῆς γυναικός σου ἐξέλθῃ, οὕτως ἐκδέχεσθαι τὴν ὥραν ἐν ἡ τὸ ψυχάριόν σου τοῦ ἐλύτρου τουτου ἐκπεσεῖται.

2 Εἰ δὲ καὶ ἴδιωτικὸν παράπτηγμα ἀψικάρδιον ἐθέλεις, μάλιστά σε εὔκολον πρὸς τὸν θάνατον ποιήσει ἡ ἐπίστασις ἡ ἐπὶ τὰ ὑποκείμενα, ὃν μέλλεις ἀφίστασθαι, καὶ μεθ' οἴων ἡθῶν οὐκέτι

¹ But cf. Capit. xxviii. § 4 (of Marcus); mortem contemnere.

² x. 36, § 2.

BOOK IX

all dissimulation and luxury and arrogance ; failing that, however, the 'next best course' is to breathe out his life when his gorge has risen at these things. Or is it thy choice to throw in thy lot with vice, and does not even thy taste of it yet persuade thee to fly from the pestilence ? For the corruption of the mind is a pest far worse than any such miasma and vitiation of the air which we breathe around us. The latter is a pestilence for living creatures and affects their life, the former for human beings and affects their humanity.

3. Despise not death,¹ but welcome it, for Nature wills it like all else. For dissolution is but one of the processes of Nature,² associated with thy life's various seasons, such as to be young, to be old, to wax to our prime and to reach it, to grow teeth and beard and gray hairs, to beget, conceive and bring forth. A man then that has reasoned the matter out should not take up towards death the attitude of indifference, reluctance, or scorn, but await it as one of the processes of Nature.³ Look for the hour when thy soul shall emerge from this its sheath, as now thou awaitest the moment when the child she carries shall come forth from thy wife's womb.⁴

But if thou desirest a commonplace solace too that will appeal to the heart, nothing will enable thee to meet death with equanimity better than to observe the environment thou art leaving and the sort of characters with whom thy soul shall no longer be

¹ *cp.* Montaigne i. 19 (Florio's version) : "The same way you came from death to life, returne without passion or amazement from life to death. Your death is but a piece of the world's order, and but a parcel of the world's life."

² Hardly a personal touch, as Vibia Aurelia, Faustina's last child, was born in 166. Besides, *έμβρυον* has no article.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἔσται ἡ <σὴ ψυχὴ> συμπεφυρμένη. προσκόπτεσθαι μὲν γὰρ αὐτοῖς ἥκιστα δεῖ, ἀλλὰ καὶ κήδεσθαι καὶ πράως φέρειν, μεμνῆσθαι μέντοι, ὅτι οὐκ ἀπ' ἀνθρώπων ὁμοδογματούντων σοι ἡ ἀπαλλαγὴ ἔσται. τοῦτο γὰρ μόνον, εἰπερ ἄρα, ἀνθεῖλκεν ἀν καὶ κατεῖχεν ἐν τῷ ζῆν, εἰ συζῆν ἐφεῖτο τοὺς τὰ αὐτὰ δογματα περιπεποιημένοις. νῦν δὲ ὁρᾶς, ὅσος ὁ κόπος ἐν τῇ διαφωνίᾳ τῆς συμβιώσεως, ὥστε εἰπεῖν, “Θάττον ἔλθοις, ὡς θάνατε, μή που καὶ αὐτὸς ἐπιλάθωμαι ἐμαυτοῦ.”

δ'. 'Ο ἀμαρτάνων ἑαυτῷ ἀμαρτάνει· ὁ ἀδικῶν ἑαυτὸν ἀδικεῖ¹ κακὸν ἑαυτὸν ποιῶν.

ε'. 'Αδικεῖ πολλάκις ὁ μὴ ποιῶν τι, οὐ μόνον ὁ ποιῶν τι.

ς'. 'Αρκεῖ ἡ παροῦσα ὑπόληψις καταληπτική, καὶ ἡ παροῦσα πρᾶξις κοινωνική, καὶ ἡ παροῦσα διάθεσις εὐαρεστικὴ πρὸς πᾶν τὸ παρὰ τῆς ἐκτὸς² αἰτίας συμβαῖνον.

ζ'. 'Εξαλεῖψαι φαντασίαν· στῆσαι ὁρμήν· σβέσαι ὅρεξιν· ἐφ' ἑαυτῷ ἔχειν τὸ ἡγεμονικόν.

η'. Εἰς μὲν τὰ ἄλογα ζῶα μία ψυχὴ διήρηται· εἰς δὲ τὰ λογικὰ μία νοερὰ ψυχὴ μεμερισται. ὥσπερ καὶ μία γῆ ἔστιν ἀπάντων τῶν γεωδῶν,

¹ ἀδικεῖ Cor.: κακοῖ Ρ: ἑαυτὸν κακὸν Leop.

² τὸ ἐκ τῆς PAD: τῆς ἐκτὸς Reiske (cp. ix. 31).

¹ x. 36; Plato, *Phaed.* 66 B.

² As Marcus himself often was. cp. v. 10; vi. 12; viii. 8.

³ x. 4.

⁴ cp. the despairing echo of these words by General Gordon, who was a reader of Marcus, from Khartum: "There is nothing left for me to prevent me speaking evil of everyone and distrusting my dear Lord but death."

BOOK IX

mixed up.¹ For while it is very far from right to be disgusted with them,² but rather even to befriend and deal gently with them,³ yet it is well to remember that not from men of like principles with thine will thy release be. For this alone, if anything, could draw us back and bind us to life, if it were but permitted us to live with those who have possessed themselves of the same principles as ours. But now thou seest how thou art driven by sheer weariness at the jarring discord of thy life with them to say : *Tarry not, O Death, lest peradventure I too forget myself.*⁴

4. He that does wrong, does wrong to himself.⁵ The unjust man is unjust to himself, for he makes himself bad.⁶

5. There is often an injustice of omission as well as of commission.

6. The present assumption rightly apprehended, the present act socially enacted, the present disposition satisfied with all that befalls it from the Cause external to it—these will suffice.

7. Efface imagination.⁷ Restrain impulse. Quench desire. Keep the ruling Reason in thine own power.

8. Among irrational creatures one life is distributed, and among the rational one intellectual soul has been parcelled out. Just as also there is one earth for all the things that are of the earth ; and

¹ iv. 26 ; ix. 38. Epict. ii. 10, § 26.

² Or, *does himself harm*. Plutarch (*Stoic. Contrad.* 12) shews that Chrysippus contradicts himself on this point. Justin (*Apol.* i. 3), speaking of persecution to Pius and Marcus, turns the tables on the latter, saying that in injuring innocent Christians they injured themselves. Epict. iv. 5. 10.

⁷ vii. 29 ; viii. 29, 49 ; xii. 25.

MARCUS AURELIUS

καὶ ἐνὶ φωτὶ ὁρῶμεν, καὶ ἔνα ἀέρα ἀναπνέομεν,
ὅσα ὄρατικὰ καὶ ἔμψυχα πάντα.

θ'. "Οσα κοινοῦ τινος μετέχει, πρὸς τὸ
όμοιγενὲς σπεύδει. τὸ γεῶδες πᾶν ῥέπει ἐπὶ¹
γῆν, τὸ ὑγρὸν πᾶν σύρρουν, τὸ ἀερῶδες ὄμοίως·
ώστε χρήζειν τῶν διειργόντων καὶ βίας. τὸ πῦρ
ἀνωφερές μὲν διὰ τὸ στοιχειῶδες πῦρ· παντὶ δὲ
πυρὶ ἐνταῦθα πρὸς τὸ συνεξάπτεσθαι ἔτοιμον
οὕτως, ὡστε καὶ πᾶν τὸ ὑλικὸν τὸ ὀλίγῳ ξηρό-
τερον εὐέξαπτον εἶναι, διὰ τὸ ἔλαττον ἐγκεκρᾶσθαι
αὐτῷ τὸ κωλυτικὸν πρὸς ἔξαψιν. καὶ τοίνυν
πᾶν τὸ κοινῆς [μὲν]¹ νοερᾶς φύσεως μέτοχον
πρὸς τὸ συγγενὲς ὄμοίως σπεύδει ἢ καὶ μᾶλλον.
ὅσῳ γάρ ἐστι κρείττον παρὰ τὰ ἄλλα, τοσούτῳ
καὶ πρὸς τὸ συγκιρυνᾶσθαι τῷ οἰκείῳ καὶ συγ-
χεῖσθαι ἔτοιμότερον.

2 Εὐθὺς γοῦν ἐπὶ μὲν τῶν ἀλόγων εὐρέθη σμήνη
καὶ ἀγέλαι καὶ νεοσσοτροφίαι καὶ οἷον ἔρωτες·
ψυχαὶ γὰρ ἡδη ἡσαν ἐνταῦθα, καὶ τὸ συναγωγὸν
ἐν τῷ κρείττονι ἐπιτεινόμενον εύρισκετο, οἷον
οὕτε ἐπὶ φυτῶν ἢν οὕτε ἐπὶ λίθων ἢ ξύλων.
ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν λογικῶν ζῷων πολιτεῖαι καὶ φιλίαι
καὶ οἰκοι καὶ σύλλογοι καὶ ἐν πολέμοις συνθῆκαι
καὶ ἀνοχαῖ. ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν ἔτι κρειττόνων, καὶ
διεστηκότων τρόπον τινὰ ἔνωσις ὑπέστη, οἷα ἐπὶ¹
τῶν ἄστρων. οὕτως ἢ ἐπὶ τὸ κρείττον ἐπανά-
βασις, συμπάθειαν καὶ ἐν διεστῶσιν ἐργάσασθαι
δύναται.

¹ omit P.

BOOK IX

one is the light whereby we see,¹ and one the air we all breathe that have sight and life.

9. All that share in a common element have an affinity for their own kind. The trend of all that is earthy is to earth; fluids all run together; it is the same with the aerial; so that only interposing obstacles and force can keep them apart. Fire indeed has a tendency to rise by reason of the elemental fire, but is so quick to be kindled in sympathy with all fire here below that every sort of matter, a whit drier than usual, is easily kindled owing to its having fewer constituents calculated to offer resistance to its kindling. So then all that shares in the Universal Intelligent Nature has as strong an affinity towards what is akin, aye even a stronger. For the measure of its superiority to all other things is the measure of its readiness to blend and coalesce with that which is akin to it.

At any rate to begin with among irrational creatures we find swarms and herds and bird-colonies and, as it were, love-associations.² For already at that stage there are souls, and the bond of affinity shews itself in the higher form to a degree of intensity not found in plants or stones or timber. But among rational creatures are found political communities and friendships and households and gatherings and in wars treaties and armistices. But in things still higher a sort of unity in separation even exists, as in the stars. Thus the ascent to the higher form is able to effect a sympathetic connexion³ even among things which are separate.

¹ xii. 30. ² cp. Aesch. *Prom.* Vin. 492: *στέργηθρα.*

³ cp. Epict. i. 14 *ad init.*

MARCUS AURELIUS

3 "Ορα οὖν τὸ νῦν γινόμενον· μόνα γὰρ τὰ νοερὰ νῦν ἐπιλέλησται τῆς πρὸς ἄλληλα σπουδῆς καὶ συννεύσεως, καὶ τὸ σύρρον ώδε μόνον οὐ βλέπεται. ἀλλ' ὅμως καίτοι φεύγοντες περικαταλαμβάνονται κρατεῖ γὰρ ἡ φύσις. ὅψει δέ, δ λέγω, παραφυλάσσων. θᾶσσον γοῦν εὔροι τις ἀν γεώδες τι μηδενὸς γεώδους προσαπτόμενον ἥπερ ἄνθρωπον ἄνθρωπον ἀπεσχισμένον.

ι'. Φέρει καρπὸν καὶ ἄνθρωπος καὶ θεὸς καὶ ὁ κόσμος· ἐν ταῖς οἰκείαις ὥραις ἔκαστα φέρει. εἰ δὲ ἡ συνήθεια κυρίως τέτριφεν ἐπὶ ἀμπέλου καὶ τῶν ὄμοίων, οὐδὲν τοῦτο. ὁ λόγος δὲ καὶ κοινὸν καὶ ἴδιον καρπὸν ἔχει· καὶ γίνεται ἐξ αὐτοῦ τοιαῦθ' ἔτερα, ὅποιον τι αὐτός ἐστιν ὁ λόγος.

ια'. Εἰ μὲν δύνασαι, μεταδίδασκε· εἰ δὲ μή, μέμνησο, ὅτι πρὸς τοῦτο ἡ εὐμένειά σοι δέδοται. καὶ οἱ θεοὶ δὲ εὐμενεῖς τοῖς τοιούτοις εἰσίν· εἰς ἔνια δὲ καὶ συνεργοῦσιν, εἰς ὑγίειαν, εἰς πλοῦτον, εἰς δόξαν· οὕτως εἰσὶν χρηστοί. ἔξεστι δὲ καὶ σοί· ἡ εἰπέ, τίς ὁ κωλύων;

ιβ'. Πόνει, μὴ ὡς ἄθλιος μηδὲ ὡς ἐλεεῖσθαι ἡ θαυμάζεσθαι θέλων· ἀλλὰ μόνον ἐν θέλε, κινεῖσθαι καὶ ἵσχεσθαι, ὡς ὁ πολιτικὸς λόγος ἀξιοῦ.

ιγ'. Σήμερον ἔξηλθον πάσης περιστάσεως· μᾶλλον δὲ ἔξέβαλον πᾶσαν περίστασιν· ἔξω γὰρ οὐκ ἦν, ἀλλὰ ἐνδον ἐν ταῖς ὑπολήψεσι.

¹ St. Paul, Gal. v. 22. ² v. 28; viii. 59. ³ ix. 27.

⁴ v. 2; viii. 40; xii. 22. cp. Montaigne, i. 40 (Florio's version): "Men, saith an ancient Greek sentence, are tormented by the opinions they have of things and not the

BOOK IX

See then what actually happens at the present time ; for at the present time it is only the intelligent creatures that have forgotten their mutual affinity and attraction, and here alone there is no sign of like flowing to like. Yet flee as they will, they are nevertheless caught in the toils, for Nature will have her way. Watch closely and thou wilt see 'tis so. Easier at any rate were it to find an earthly thing in touch with nothing earthly than a man wholly severed from mankind.

10. They all bear fruit—Man and God and the Universe : each in its due season bears. It matters nought that in customary parlance such a term is strictly applicable only to the vine and such things. Reason too hath its fruit both for all and for itself, and there issue from it other things such as is Reason itself.¹

11. If thou art able, convert the wrong-doer.² If not, bear in mind that kindness was given thee to meet just such a case. The Gods too are kindly to such persons and even co-operate with them for certain ends—for health, to wit, and wealth and fame, so benignant are they.³ Thou too canst be the same ; or say who is there that prevents thee.

12. Do thy work not as a drudge, nor as desirous of pity or praise. Desire one thing only, to act or not to act as civic reason directs.

13. This day have I got me out of all trouble, or rather have cast out all trouble, for it was not from without, but within, in my own imagination.⁴

things themselves. . . . If evil have no entrance into us but by our judgment, it seemeth that it lieth in our power either to contemne or turn them to our good. . . . If that which we call evil and torment be neither torment nor evil, but that our fancy only gives it that quality, it is in us to change it."

MARCUS AURELIUS

ιδ. Πάντα ταῦτα συνήθη μὲν τῇ πείρᾳ, ἐφήμερα δὲ τῷ χρόνῳ, ῥυπαρὰ δὲ τῇ ὕλῃ. πάντα νῦν, οὐλα ἐπ', ἔκείνων, οὓς κατεθάψαμεν.

ιε'. Τὰ πράγματα ἔξω θυρῶν ἔστηκεν αὐτὰ ἐφ' ἑαυτῶν μηδὲν μῆτε εἰδότα περὶ αὐτῶν μῆτε ἀποφαινόμενα. τί οὖν ἀποφαίνεται περὶ αὐτῶν; τὸ ἡγεμονικόν.

ις'. Οὐκ ἐν πείσει, ἀλλ' ἐνεργείᾳ τὸ τοῦ λογικοῦ <καὶ> πολιτικοῦ ζώου κακὸν καὶ ἀγαθόν, ὡσπερ οὐδὲ ἡ ἀρετὴ καὶ κακία αὐτοῦ ἐν πείσει, ἀλλὰ ἐνεργείᾳ.

ιζ'. Τῷ ἀναρριφέντι λίθῳ οὐδὲν κακὸν τὸ κατενεχθῆναι οὐδὲ ἀγαθὸν τὸ ἀνενεχθῆναι.

ιη'. Δίελθε ἔσω εἰς τὰ ἡγεμονικὰ αὐτῶν, καὶ ὅφει, τίνας κριτὰς φοβῇ, οἵους καὶ περὶ αὐτῶν ὄντας κριτάς.

ιθ'. Πάντα ἐν μεταβολῇ· καὶ αὐτὸς σὺ ἐν διηνεκεῖ ἀλλοιώσει καὶ κατά τι φθορᾷ· καὶ ὁ κόσμος δὲ ὄλος.

κ'. Τὸ ἄλλου ἀμάρτημα ἔκει δεῖ καταλιπεῖν.

κα'. Ἐνεργείας ἀπόληξις, ὄρμῆς,¹ ὑπολήψεως παῦλα καὶ οἷον θάνατος, οὐδὲν κακόν. μέτιθι νῦν ἐπὶ ἡλικίαν, οἷον τὴν παιδικήν, τὴν τοῦ μειρακίου, τὴν νεότητα, τὸ γῆρας· καὶ γὰρ τούτων πᾶσα μεταβολὴ θάνατος. μῆτι δεινόν· μέτιθι νῦν ἐπὶ βίον τὸν ὑπὸ τῷ πάππῳ, εἴτα τὸν ὑπὸ τῇ μητρί, εἴτα τὸν ὑπὸ τῷ πατρί· καὶ ἄλλας

¹ δρμῆς requires a substantive like ἀπόληψις or ἡσυχὴ to balance the sentence.

¹ iv. 44.

³ ii. 4 ; iv. 32.

² iv. 35.

⁴ viii. 20.

BOOK IX

14. All these are things of familiar experience¹; in their duration ephemeral,² in their material foul. Everything is now as it was in the days of those whom we have buried.³

15. Objective things stand outside the door, keeping themselves to themselves, without knowledge of or message about themselves. What then has for us a message about them? The ruling Reason.

16. Not in being acted upon but in activity lies the evil and the good of the rational and civic creature, just as his virtue too and his vice lie in activity and not in being acted upon.

17. The stone that is thrown into the air is none the worse for falling down, or the better for being carried upwards.⁴

18. Find the way within into their ruling Reason, and thou shalt see what these judges are whom thou fearest and what their judgment of themselves is worth.⁵

19. Change is the universal experience.⁶ Thou art thyself undergoing a perpetual transformation and, in some sort, decay⁷: aye and the whole Universe as well.

20. Another's wrong-doing should be left with him.⁸

21. A cessation of activity, a quiescence from impulse and opinion and, as it were, their death, is no evil. Turn now to consider the stages of thy life—childhood, boyhood, manhood, old age—each step in the ladder of change a death. Is there anything terrible here? Pass on now to thy life under thy grandfather, then under thy mother, then under thy

¹ iv. 38; vii. 34.

⁶ v. 23; vii. 18.

⁷ iv. 3 *ad fin.*; vii. 25.

⁸ vii. 29; ix. 38.

MARCUS AURELIUS

δὲ πολλὰς διαφορὰς¹ καὶ μεταβολὰς καὶ ἀπολήξεις εύρισκων, ἐπερώτα σεαυτόν· “Μήτι δεινόν;” οὕτως τοίνυν οὐδὲ ἡ τοῦ ὅλου βίου λῆξις καὶ παῦλα καὶ μεταβολὴ.

κβ'. Τρέχει ἐπὶ τὸ σεαυτοῦ ἡγεμονικὸν καὶ τὸ τοῦ ὅλου, καὶ τὸ τούτου. τὸ μὲν σεαυτοῦ, ἵνα νοῦν² δικαιϊκὸν αὐτὸ ποιήσῃς· τὸ δὲ τοῦ ὅλου, ἵνα συμμιημονεύσῃς, τίνος μέρος εἰ· τὸ δὲ τούτου, ἵνα ἐπιστήσῃς, πότερον ἄγνοια ἢ γνώμη, καὶ ἄμα λογίσῃ, ὅτι συγγενές.

κγ'. “Ωσπερ αὐτὸς σὺ πολιτικοῦ συστήματος συμπληρωτικὸς εἶ, οὕτως καὶ πᾶσα πρᾶξίς σου συμπληρωτικὴ ἔστω ζωῆς πολιτικῆς. ἦτις ἐὰν οὖν πρᾶξίς σου μὴ ἔχῃ τὴν ἀναφορὰν εἴτε προσεχῶς εἴτε πόρρωθεν ἐπὶ τὸ κοινωνικὸν τέλος, αὐτῇ διασπᾶ τὸν βίον καὶ οὐκ ἐά ἔνα είναι καὶ στασιώδης ἔστιν, ὥσπερ ἐν δήμῳ ὁ τὸ καθ' αὐτὸν μέρος διιστάμενος ἀπὸ τῆς τοιαύτης συμφωνίας.

κδ'. Παιδίων ὄργαὶ καὶ παίγνια, καὶ “πνευμάτια νεκροὺς βαστάζοντα,” ὥστε ἐναργέστερον προσπεσεῖν τὸ τῆς Νεκυίας.

κε'. “Ιθι ἐπὶ τὴν ποιότητα τοῦ αἰτίου, καὶ ἀπὸ τοῦ ὑλικοῦ αὐτὸ περιγράψας θέασαι· εἴτα καὶ τὸν χρόνον περιόρισον, ὅσον πλεῖστον ὑφίστασθαι πέφυκε τούτο τὸ ἴδιως ποιόν.

¹ διαφορὰς AD.

² νῦν Rend.: γοῦν Cor.

¹ Pius. See on i. 17, § 3.

² cp. Lucian, *de Luct.* 15.

iv. 41 πνευμάτιον=ψυχάριον.

BOOK IX

father,¹ and finding there many other alterations, changes, and cessations, ask thyself: *Is there anything terrible here?* No, nor any in the ending and quiescence and change of the whole of life.²

22. Speed to the ruling Reason of thyself, and of the Universe, and of thy neighbour: of thine own, that thou mayest make it just; of that of the Universe, that thou mayest therewithal remember of what thou art a part; of thy neighbour, that thou mayest learn whether it was ignorance with him or understanding, and reflect at the same time that it is akin to thee.

23. As thou thyself art a part perfective of a civic organism, let also thine every act be a part perfective of civic life. Every act of thine then that has no relation direct or indirect to this social end, tears thy life asunder and destroys its unity, and creates a schism, just as in a commonwealth does the man who, as far as in him lies, stands aloof from such a concord of his fellows.

24. Children's squabbles and make-believe, and *little souls bearing up corpses*³—the Invocation of the Dead⁴ might strike one as a more vivid reality!

25. Go straight to that which makes a thing what it is, its formative cause,⁵ and, isolating it from the material, regard it so. Then mark off the utmost time for which the individual object so qualified is calculated to subsist.

¹ Possibly refers to the *Nékvia* of Homer (*Od. xi.*). Menippus (Diog. Laert. *Men.* 6) also wrote a *Nékvia* (cp. above, vi. 47). But it was a term for the invocation of the dead, see Just. *Ap.* i. 18.

² To the Formative, or Efficient Cause, of things is due not only that they exist, but that they are what they are. To translate the words here literally by *the quality of the Cause* conveys no meaning. cp. vi. 3.

MARCUS AURELIUS

κς'. Ἀνέτλης μύρια διὰ τὸ μὴ ἀρκεῖσθαι τῷ σῷ ἡγεμονικῷ ποιοῦντι ταῦτα, εἰς ἀ κατεσκευασται. ἀλλὰ ἄλις.

κς. "Οταν ἄλλος ψέγη σε, ἢ μισῆ, ἢ τοιαῦτά τινα ἐκφωνῶσιν, ἔρχου ἐπὶ τὰ ψυχάρια αὐτῶν, δίελθε ἔσω καὶ ἵδε, ποιοί τινές εἰσιν. ὅφει, ὅτι οὐ δεῖ σε σπάσθαι, ἵνα τούτοις τί ποτε περὶ σοῦ δοκῇ. εὔνοεῖν μέντοι αὐτοῖς δεῖ· φύσει γὰρ φίλοι. καὶ οἱ θεοὶ δὲ παντοίως αὐτοῖς βοηθοῦσι, δι᾽ ὀνείρων, διὰ μαντειῶν, πρὸς ταῦτα μέντοι, πρὸς ἀ ἐκεῖνοι διαφέρονται.

κη'. Ταῦτα ἔστι τὰ τοῦ κόσμου ἐγκύκλια, ἄνω κάτω, ἐξ αἰῶνος εἰς αἰῶνα. καὶ ἡτοι ἐφ' ἔκαστον ὄρμᾶ ἡ τοῦ ὅλου διάνοια· ὅπερ εἰ ἔστιν, ἀποδέχου τὸ ἐκείνης ὄρμητόν· ἡ ἄπαξ ὄρμησε, τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ κατ᾽ ἐπακολούθησιν καὶ τί ἐν τίνι·^{† 1} τρόπον γάρ τινα ἄτομοι, τῇ ἀμερῇ·[†] τὸ δὲ ὅλον, εἴτε θεός, εὖ ἔχει πάντα· εἴτε τὸ εἰκῆ, μὴ καὶ σὺ εἰκῆ.

2 Ἡδη πάντας ἡμᾶς γῆ καλύψει· ἔπειτα καὶ αὐτὴ μεταβαλεῖ· κάκεῖνα εἰς ἄπειρον μεταβαλεῖ· καὶ πάλιν ἐκεῖνα εἰς ἄπειρον. τὰς γὰρ ἐπικυματώσεις τῶν μεταβολῶν καὶ ἀλλοιώσεων ἐνθυμούμενός τις καὶ τὸ τάχος παντὸς θυητοῦ καταφρονήσει.

κθ'. Χειμάρρους ἡ τῶν ὅλων αἰτία·² πάντα φέρει. ὡς εὐτελῆ δὲ καὶ τὰ πολιτικὰ ταῦτα καί,

¹ τί ἐν (ἐν Α) τίνι P : τί ἐντείνῃ (*Why this striving?*) Cor. (cp. x. 31) : τί ἐν τινὶ Stich. ² οὐσίᾳ Reiske.

¹ i. 17 *ad fin.*

² ix. 11, 40.

³ The Heraclitan round of change between the elements ; see iv. 46. ⁴ ix. 1, § 4.

BOOK IX

26. By not being content with thy ruling Reason doing the work for which it was constituted, thou hast borne unnumbered ills. Nay, 'tis enough!

27. When men blame or hate thee or give utterance to some such feelings against thee, turn to their souls, enter into them, and see what sort of men they are. Thou wilt perceive that thou needest not be concerned as to what they think of thee. Yet must thou feel kindly towards them, for Nature made them dear to thee. The Gods too lend them aid in divers ways by dreams¹ and oracles, to win those very things on which their hearts are set.²

28. The same, upwards, downwards,³ from cycle to cycle are the revolutions of the Universe. And either the Universal Mind feels an impulse to act in each separate case—and if this be so, accept its impulsion—or it felt this impulse⁴ once for all, and all subsequent things follow by way of consequence; and what matters which it be, for if you like to put it so the world is all atoms [or indivisible].⁵ But as to the Whole, if God—all is well; if haphazard—be not thou also haphazard.⁶

Presently the earth will cover us all. It too will anon be changed, and the resulting product will go on from change to change, and so for ever and ever. When a man thinks of these successive waves of change and transformation, and their rapidity, he will hold every mortal thing in scorn.⁷

29. The World-Cause is as a torrent, it sweeps everything along. How negligible these manikins

⁵ Possibly ἀμερῆ is a gloss, or διοιομερῆ should be read. (*cp.* Epict. *Frag.* 175.)

⁶ ii. 5; iv. 2, etc. τὸ θλον may also be taken to mean *in fine*.

⁷ ix. 19; xii. 21. *cp.* Capit. xxviii. 4 of Marcus on his death-bed, *ridens res humanas*.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ώς οἰεται, φιλοσόφως πρακτικὰ ἀνθρώπια· μυξῶν μεστά. ἄνθρωπε, τί ποτε; ποίησον, δὲ νῦν ἡ φύσις ἀπαιτεῖ. ὅρμησον, ἐὰν διδώται, καὶ μὴ περιβλέπου, εἴ τις εἰσεται. μὴ τὴν Πλάτωνος πολιτείαν ἔλπιζε· ἀλλὰ ἀρκοῦ, εἰ τὸ βραχύτατον πρόεισι, καὶ τούτου αὐτοῦ τὴν ἔκβασιν, ως¹ μικρόν τι ἔστι, διανοοῦ. δόγμα γὰρ αὐτῶν τίς μεταβάλλει; χωρὶς δὲ δογμάτων μεταβολῆς τί ἄλλο ἡ δουλεία στενόντων καὶ πείθεσθαι προσποιουμένων; ὑπαγε νῦν, καὶ Ἀλέξανδρον καὶ Φίλιππον καὶ Δημήτριον τὸν Φαληρέα μοι λέγε. ὕψονται, εἰ εἶδον, τί ἡ κοινὴ φύσις ἥθελεν, καὶ ἔαυτοὺς ἐπαιδαγώγησαν· εἰ δὲ ἐτραγῳδησαν, οὐδείς με κατακέκρικε μιμεῖσθαι. ἀπλοῦν ἔστι καὶ αἰδῆμον τὸ φιλοσοφίας ἔργον· μὴ με ἄπαγε² ἐπὶ σεμνοτυφίαν.

λ'. "Ανωθεν ἐπιθεωρεῖν ἀγέλας μυρίας καὶ τελετὰς μυρίας καὶ πλοῦν παντοῖον ἐν χειμῶσι καὶ γαλήναις καὶ διαφορὰς γινομένων, συγγινομένων, ἀπογινομένων. ἐπινόει δὲ καὶ τὸν ὑπ' ἄλλων πάλαι βεβιωμένον βίον, καὶ τὸν μετὰ σὲ βιωθησόμενον, καὶ τὸν νῦν ἐν τοῖς βαρβάροις ἔθνεσι βιούμενον· καὶ ὅσοι μὲν οὐδὲ ὄνομά σου γινώσκουσιν, ὅσοι δὲ τάχιστα ἐπιλήσονται, ὅσοι δὲ ἐπαινοῦντες ἵσως νῦν σε τάχιστα ψέξουσι· καὶ ώς οὕτε ἡ μνήμη ἀξιόλογόν γε οὕτε ἡ δόξα οὕτε ἄλλο τι τὸ σύμπαν.

λα'. Ἀταραξία μὲν περὶ τῶν ἀπὸ τῆς ἐκτὸς

¹ ὡς οὐ P.

² Perhaps ἀπαγέτω.

¹ v. 6, § 1. Sen. Ep. 79: *Haec nos oportet agere licet nemo videat.*

BOOK IX

that busy themselves with civic matters and flatter themselves that they act therein as philosophers! Drivellers all! What then, O Man? Do what Nature asks of thee now. Make the effort if it be given thee to do so and look not about to see if any shall know it.¹ Dream not of Utopias but be content if the least thing go forward, and count the outcome of the matter in hand as a small thing.² For who can alter another's conviction? Failing a change of conviction, we merely get men pretending to be persuaded and chafing like slaves under coercion. Go to now and tell me of Alexander and Philip and Demetrius of Phalerum. Whether they realized the will of Nature and schooled themselves thereto, is their concern. But if they played the tragedy-hero, no one has condemned me to copy them. Simple and modest is the work of Philosophy: lead me not astray into pomposity and pride.

30. Take a bird's-eye view of the world, its endless gatherings³ and endless ceremonials,⁴ voyagings manifold in storm and calm, and the vicissitudes of things coming into being, participating in being, ceasing to be. Reflect too on the life lived long ago by other men, and the life that shall be lived after thee, and is now being lived in barbarous countries; and how many have never even heard thy name, and how many will very soon forget it, and how many who now perhaps acclaim, will very soon blame thee, and that neither memory nor fame nor anything else whatever is worth reckoning.

31. Freedom from perturbation in all that befalls

² Or, reading *οὐ μικρὸν*: *deem the success of the matter in hand no small thing.* ³ vii. 3, 48.

⁴ nearly = our colloquial "functions,"

MARCUS AURELIUS

αἰτίας συμβαινόντων, δικαιότης δὲ ἐν τοῖς παρὰ τὴν ἐκ σοῦ αἰτίαν ἐνεργουμένοις· τουτέστιν ὄρμὴ καὶ πρᾶξις καταλήγουσα ἐπ' αὐτὸ τὸ κυινωνικῶς πρᾶξαι ώς τοῦτό σοι κατὰ φύσιν ὅν.

λβ'. Πολλὰ περισσά περιελεῖν τῶν ἐνοχλούντων σοι δύνασαι, ὅλα ἐπὶ τῇ ὑπολήψει σου κείμενα· καὶ πολλὴν εὔρυχωρίαν περιποιήσεις ἥδη σεαυτῷ, <τῷ>¹ τὸν ὅλον κόσμον περιειληφέναι τῇ γνώμῃ, καὶ τὸν ἀίδιον αἰώνα περινοεῖν, καὶ τὴν τῶν κατὰ μέρος ἐκάστου πράγματος ταχεῖαν μεταβολὴν ἐπινοεῖν, ώς βραχὺ μὲν τὸ ἀπὸ γενέσεως μέχρι διαλύσεως, ἀχανὲς δὲ τὸ πρὸ τῆς γενέσεως, ώς καὶ τὸ μετὰ τὴν διάλυσιν ὁμοίως ἄπειρον.

λγ'. Πάντα, ὅσα ὄρᾶς, τάχιστα φθαρήσεται καὶ οἱ φθειρόμενα αὐτὰ ἐπιδόντες τάχιστα καὶ αὐτοὶ φθαρήσονται· καὶ ὁ ἐσχατόγηρως ἀποθανὼν εἰς ἵσον καταστήσεται τῷ προώρῳ.

λδ'. Τίνα τὰ ἡγεμονικὰ τούτων, καὶ περὶ οἷα ἐσπουδάκασι, καὶ δι' οἷα φιλοῦσι καὶ τιμῶσι. γυμνὰ νόμιζε βλέπειν τὰ ψυχάρια αὐτῶν. ὅτε δοκοῦσι βλάπτειν ψέγοντες ἡ ὀφελεῖν ἐξυμνοῦντες, ὅση οἵησις.

λε'. Ἡ ἀποβολὴ οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἐστὶν ἡ μεταβολὴ· τούτῳ δὲ χαίρει ἡ τῶν ὅλων φύσις, καθ' ἣν πάντα, καθὼς² γίνεται, ἐξ αἰώνος ὁμοειδῶς ἐγίνετο, καὶ εἰς ἄπειρον τοιαῦθ' ἔτερα ἔσται. τί οὖν λέγεις, ὅτι ἐγίνετό τε πάντα <κακῶς>³ καὶ

¹ <τῷ> Gat.

² καθὼς PA : καθὼς Schenkl.

³ So Reiske : δ καὶ πάντα P : omit A.

BOOK IX

from the external Cause, and justice in all that thine own inner Cause prompts thee to do ; that is, impulse and action finding fulfilment in the actual performance of social duty as being in accordance with thy nature.

32. It is in thy power to rid thyself of many unnecessary troubles, for they exist wholly in thy imagination. Thou wilt at once set thy feet in a large room by embracing the whole Universe in thy mind and including in thy purview time everlasting, and by observing the rapid change in every part of everything, and the shortness of the span between birth and dissolution, and that the yawning immensity before birth is only matched by the infinity after our dissolution.

33. All that thine eyes behold will soon perish and they, who live to see it perish, will in their turn perish no less quickly ; and he who outlives all his contemporaries and he who dies before his time will be as one in the grave.

34. What is the ruling Reason¹ of these men, and about what sort of objects have they been in earnest, and from what motives do they lavish their love and their honour ! View with the mind's eye their poor little souls in their nakedness. What immense conceit this of theirs, when they fancy that there is bane in their blame and profit in their praises !

35. Loss and change,² they are but one. Therein doth the Universal Nature take pleasure,³ through whom are all things done now as they have been in like fashion from time everlasting ; and to eternity shall other like things be. Why then dost thou say that all things have been evil and will remain evil

¹ vii. 34, 62 ; ix. 18.

² The play on the words cannot be kept.

³ vii. 18.

MARCUS AURELIUS

πάντα ἀεὶ κακῶς ἔσται, καὶ οὐδεμίᾳ ἄρα δύναμις ἐν τοσούτοις θεοῖς ἔξευρέθη ποτὲ ἡ διορθώσουσα ταῦτα, ἀλλὰ κατακέκριται ὁ κόσμος ἐν ἀδιαλείπτοις κακοῖς συνέχεσθαι;

λς'. Τὸ σαπρὸν τῆς ἑκάστῳ ὑποκειμένης ὕλης ὕδωρ, κόνις, ὀστάρια, γράσος· ἡ πάλιν πῶροι γῆς τὰ μάρμαρα, καὶ ὑποστάθμαι ὁ χρυσός, ὁ ἄργυρος, καὶ τριχία ἡ ἐσθής· καὶ αἷμα ἡ πορφύρα, καὶ τὰ ἄλλα πάντα τοιαῦτα. καὶ τὸ πνευμάτιον¹ δὲ ἄλλο τοιῷτον καὶ ἐκ τούτων εἰς ταῦτα μεταβάλλον.

λξ'. "Αλις τοῦ ἀθλίου βίου, καὶ γογγυσμοῦ, καὶ πιθηκισμοῦ. τί ταράσσῃ; τί τούτων καινόν; τί σε ἔξιστησι; τὸ αἴτιον; ἵδε αὐτό. ἀλλ' ἡ ὕλη; ἵδε αὐτήν. ἔξω δὲ τούτων οὐδέν ἔστιν ἄλλὰ καὶ πρὸς τοὺς θεοὺς ἥδη ποτὲ ἀπλούστερος καὶ χρηστότερος γενοῦν.

2 "Ισον τὸ ἑκατὸν ἔτεσι καὶ τὸ τρισὶ ταῦτα ἴστορησαι.

λη'. Εἰ μὲν ἥμαρτεν, ἐκεῖ τὸ κακόν. τάχα δ' οὐχ ἥμαρτεν.

λθ'. "Ητοι ἀπὸ μᾶς πηγῆς νοερᾶς πάντα ὡς ἐνὶ σώματι ἐπισυμβαίνει, καὶ οὐ δεῖ τὸ μέρος τοῖς ὑπὲρ τοῦ ὅλου γινομένοις μέμφεσθαι· ἡ ἄτομοι καὶ οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἡ κυκεὼν καὶ σκεδασμός. τί οὖν ταράσσῃ; τῷ ἡγεμονικῷ λέγε.² "Τέθυηκας, ἔφθαρσαι, τεθηρίωσαι, ὑποκρίνη, συναγελάξῃ, βόσκῃ."

μ'. "Ητοι οὐδὲν δύνανται οἱ θεοὶ ἡ δύνανται.

¹ πνευματικὸν Cas.: πνευμάτιον PA.

² λέγεις PA : λέγε Cor. Perhaps λέγε σύ.

BOOK IX

to the end, and that no help has after all been found in Gods, so many as they be, to right these things, but that the fiat hath gone forth that the Universe should be bound in an unbroken chain of ill?

36. Seeds of decay in the underlying material of everything—water, dust, bones, reek! Again, marble but nodules of earth, and gold and silver but dross, garments merely hair-tufts, and purple only blood. And so with everything else. The soul too another like thing and liable to change from this to that.

37. Have done with this miserable way of life, this grumbling, this apism! Why fret? What is the novelty here? What amazes thee? The Cause? Look fairly at it. What then, the Material? Look fairly at that. Apart from these two, there is nothing. But in regard to the Gods also now even at the eleventh hour show thyself more simple,¹ more worthy.

Whether thy experience of these things lasts three hundred years or three, it is all one.

38. If he did wrong, with him lies the evil. But maybe he did no wrong.²

39. Either there is one intelligent source, from which as in one body all after things proceed—and the part ought not to grumble at what is done in the interests of the whole—or there are atoms, and nothing but a medley and a dispersion.³ Why then be harassed? Say to thy ruling Reason: *Thou art dead!* *Thou art corrupt!* *Thou hast become a wild beast!* *Thou art a hypocrite!* *Thou art one of the herd!* *Thou battenest with them!*

40. Either the Gods have no power or they have

¹ iv. 26. ² vii. 29. ³ iv. 27; vi. 10; vii. 32; xii. 14.

MARCUS AURELIUS

εἰ μὲν οὖν μὴ δύνανται, τί εὐχη; εἰ δὲ δυνανται, διὰ τί οὐχὶ μᾶλλον εὐχη διδόναι αὐτοὺς τὸ μήτε φοβεῖσθαι τι τούτων μήτε ἐπιθυμεῖν τινος τούτων μήτε λυπεῖσθαι ἐπὶ τινι τούτων μᾶλλον ἥπερ τὸ μὴ παρεῖναι τι τούτων ἢ τὸ παρεῖναι; πάντως γάρ, εἰ δύνανται συνεργεῖν ἀνθρώποις, καὶ εἰς ταῦτα δύνανται συνεργεῖν. ἀλλὰ ἵσως ἔρεις, ὅτι “Ἐπ’ ἐμοὶ ἀύτᾳ οἱ θεοὶ ἐποίησαν.” εἴτα οὐ κρείσσον χρῆσθαι τοῖς ἐπὶ σοὶ μετ’ ἐλευθερίας ἢ διαφέρεσθαι πρὸς τὰ μὴ ἐπὶ σοὶ μετὰ δουλείας καὶ ταπεινότητος; τίς δέ σοι εἰπεν, ὅτι οὐχὶ καὶ εἰς τὰ ἐφ’ ἡμῖν οἱ θεοὶ συλλαμβάνουσιν; ἄρξαι γοῦν περὶ τούτων εὐχεσθαι καὶ ὅψει. οὗτος εὐχεταὶ “Πῶς κοιμηθῶ μετ’ ἐκείνης.” σύ “Πῶς μὴ ἐπιθυμήσω τοῦ κοιμηθῆναι μετ’ ἐκείνης.” ἄλλος. “Πῶς στερηθῶ ἐκείνου.” σύ “Πῶς μὴ χρήζω τοῦ στερηθῆναι.” ἄλλος. “Πῶς μὴ ἀποβάλω τὸ τεκνίον.” σύ “Πῶς μὴ φοβηθῶ ἀποβαλεῖν.” ὅλως ὡδε ἐπίστρεψον τὰς εὐχάς, καὶ θεώρει, τί γίνεται.

μα’. Ὁ Ἐπίκουρος λέγει, ὅτι “Ἐν τῇ νόσῳ οὐκ ἡσάν μοι αἱ ὄμιλαι περὶ τῶν τοῦ σωματίου παθῶν οὐδὲ πρὸς τοὺς εἰσιόντας τοιαῦτά τινα,” φησὶν, “ἐλάλουν ἀλλὰ τὰ προηγούμενα φυσιολογῶν διετέλουν, καὶ πρὸς αὐτῷ τούτῳ ὡν, πῶς ἡ διάνοια συμμεταλαμβάνουσα τῶν ἐν τῷ σαρκιδίῳ τοιούτων¹ κινήσεων ἀταρακτεῖ, τὸ ἴδιον ἀγαθὸν τηροῦσα. οὐδὲ τοῖς ἱατροῖς ἐμπαρεῖχον,” φησί, “καταφρυάττεσθαι, ὡς τι ποιοῦσιν, ἀλλ’ ὁ

¹ τοιούτων P : ποιούντων A : ποιῶν τινων Schenkl.

vii. 44.

ix. 27. St. Paul, Rom. viii. 26 : τὸ πνεῦμα συναντιλα-

BOOK IX

power. If they have no power, why pray to them¹? But if they have power, why not rather pray that they should give thee freedom from fear of any of these things and from lust for any of these things and from grief at any of these things [rather] than that they should grant this or refuse that. For obviously if they can assist men at all, they can assist them in this. But perhaps thou wilt say : *The Gods have put this in my power.* Then is it not better to use what is in thy power like a free man than to concern thyself with what is not in thy power like a slave and an abject? And who told thee that the Gods do not co-operate with us² even in the things that are in our power? Begin at any rate with prayers for such things and thou wilt see. One prays : *How may I lie with that woman!*³ Thou : *How may I not lust to lie with her!* Another : *How may I be quit of that man!* Thou : *How may I not wish to be quit of him!* Another : *How may I not lose my little child!* Thou : *How may I not dread to lose him.*⁴ In a word, give thy prayers this turn, and see what comes of it.

41. Listen to Epicurus⁵ where he says : *In my illness my talk was not of any bodily feelings, nor did I chatter about such things to those who came to see me, but I went on with my cardinal disquisitions on natural philosophy, dwelling especially on this point, how the mind, having perforce its share in such affections of the flesh, yet remains unperturbed, safeguarding its own proper good. Nor did I—he goes on—let the physicians ride the high horse as if they were doing βάνεται.* Gataker very aptly quotes Augustine, *de Grat. Christi* i. 15 : *Cur petitur quod ad nostram pertinet potestatem, si Deus non adjuvat voluntatem?*

³ Sen. *Ep.* 10 *ad fin.*; Shak. *Lucr.* 50.

⁴ Capit. xxi. § 3.

⁵ See Diog. Laert. *Epicur.* § 10.

MARCUS AURELIUS

βίος ἦγετο εὖ καὶ καλῶς.” ταῦτὰ οὖν ἐκείνῳ ἐν νόσῳ, ἐὰν νοσῆς, καὶ ἐν ἄλλῃ τινὶ περιστάσει· τὸ γὰρ μὴ ἀφίστασθαι φιλοσοφίας ἐν οἷς δήποτε τοῖς προσπίπτουσι μηδὲ [τῷ] ἴδιωτῇ καὶ ἀφυσιολόγῳ¹ συμφλυαρεῖν πάσης αἰρέσεως κοινόν· . . . πρὸς μόνῳ δὲ τῷ υἱῷ πρασσομένῳ εἶναι καὶ τῷ ὄργανῳ, δι’ οὐ πράσσεις.²

μβ. “Οταν τινὸς ἀναισχυντίᾳ προσκόπτης, εὐθὺς πυνθάνου σεαυτοῦ· “Δύνανται οὖν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἀναισχυντοι μὴ εἶναι;” οὐ δύνανται. μη οὖν ἀπαίτει τὸ ἀδύνατον. εἰς γὰρ καὶ οὗτος ἔστιν ἐκείνων τῶν ἀναισχύντων, οὓς ἀνάγκη ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ εἶναι. τὸ δ’ αὐτὸ καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ πανούργου καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ ἀπίστου καὶ παντὸς τοῦ ὄτιοῦν ἀμαρτάνοντος ἔστω σοι πρόχειρον. ἅμα γὰρ τῷ ὑπομνησθῆναι, ὅτι τὸ γένος τῶν τοιούτων ἀδύνατόν ἔστι μὴ ὑπάρχειν, εὐμενέστερος ἔσῃ πρὸς τοὺς καθ’ ἕνα. εὔχρηστον δὲ κάκεῖνο εὐθὺς ἐννοεῖν, “Τίνα ἔδωκεν ἡ φύσις τῷ ἀνθρώπῳ ἀρετὴν πρὸς τοῦτο τὸ ἀμάρτημα.” ἔδωκε γάρ, ως ἀντιφάρμακον πρὸς μὲν τὸν ἀγνώμονα τὴν πρᾳότητα, πρὸς δὲ ἄλλον ἄλλην τινὰ δύναμιν.

2 “Ολως δὲ ἔξεστί σοι μεταδιδάσκειν τὸν πεπλανημένον· πᾶς γὰρ ὁ ἀμαρτάνων ἀφαμαρτάνει τοῦ προκειμένου καὶ πεπλάνηται. τι δὲ καὶ βέβλαψαι; εὐρήσεις γὰρ μηδένα τούτων, πρὸς οὓς παροξύνῃ, πεποιηκότα τι τοιούτον, ἔξ οὐ ἡ διάνοιά σου χείρων ἔμελλε γενήσεσθαι· τὸ δὲ

¹ ἀφυσιολόγῳ Gat.: φυσιολόγῳ (*natural philosopher*) PA.

² πράσσει PA. This verb has no subject and Wilam. and Schenkl mark a lacuna before πρὸς μόνῳ: πράσσεις Reiske.

BOOK IX

grand things, but my life went on well and happily.
Imitate him then in sickness, if thou art sick, and in any other emergency; for it is a commonplace of every sect not to renounce Philosophy whatever difficulties we encounter, nor to consent to babble as he does that is unenlightened in philosophy and nature; . . . devote thyself to thy present work alone and thy instrument for performing it.

42. When thou art offended by shamelessness in any one, put this question at once to thyself: *Can it be that shameless men should not exist in the world?* It can not be. Then ask not for what can not be.¹ For this man in question also is one of the shameless ones that must needs exist in the world. Have the same reflection ready for the rogue, the deceiver, or any other wrongdoer whatever. For the remembrance that this class of men cannot but exist will bring with it kindlier feelings towards individuals of the class. Right useful too is it to bethink thee at once of this: *What virtue has Nature given man as a foil to the wrong-doing in question?* For as an antidote against the unfeeling man she has given gentleness,² and against another man some other resource.

In any case it is in thy power to teach the man that has gone astray the error of his ways. For every one that doth amiss misses his true mark and hath gone astray. But what harm hast thou suffered? Thou wilt find that not one of the persons against whom thou art exasperated has done anything capable of making thy mind worse; but it is in

¹ v. 17. cp. Dio 71. 34, § 4.

² Epict. *Man.* 10; St. Paul, Tit. iii. 2: πραότητα πρὸς πάντας.

MARCUS AURELIUS

κακόν σου καὶ τὸ βλαβερὸν ἐνταῦθα πᾶσαν τὴν ὑπόστασις ἔχει.

- 3 Τί δαὶ κακὸν ἡ ξένον γέγονεν, εἰ ὁ ἀπαίδευτος τὰ τοῦ ἀπαίδεύτου πράσσει; ὅρα, μὴ σεαυτῷ μᾶλλον ἐγκαλεῖν ὄφείλης, ὅτι οὐ προσεδόκησας τοῦτον τοῦτο ἀμαρτήσεσθαι. σὺ γὰρ καὶ ἀφορμὰς ἐκ τοῦ λόγου εἶχες πρὸς τὸ ἐνθυμηθῆναι, ὅτι εἰκός ἔστι τοῦτον τοῦτο ἀμαρτήσεσθαι, καὶ ὅμως ἐπιλαθόμενος θαυμάζεις, εἰ ἡμάρτηκε.
- 4 Μάλιστα δέ, ὅταν ὡς ἀπίστῳ ἡ ἀχαρίστῳ μέμφῃ, εἰς σεαυτὸν ἐπιστρέφου. προδῆλως γὰρ σὸν τὸ ἀμάρτημα, εἴτε περὶ τοῦ τοιαύτην διάθεσιν ἔχοντος ἐπίστευσας, ὅτι τὴν πίστιν φυλάξει, εἴτε τὴν χάριν διδοὺς μὴ καταληκτικῶς ἔδωκας, μηδὲ ὥστε ἐξ αὐτῆς τῆς σῆς πράξεως εὐθὺς ἀπειληφέναι πάντα τὸν καρπόν.
- 5 Τί γὰρ πλέον θέλεις εὐ ποιήσας ἄνθρωπον; οὐκ ἀρκεῖ τοῦτο, ὅτι κατὰ φύσιν τὴν σήν τι ἐπραξας, ἀλλὰ τούτου μισθὸν ζητεῖς; ὡς εἰ ὁ ὀδφθαλμὸς ἀμοιβὴν ἀπήγτει, ὅτι βλέπει, ἡ οἱ πόδες, ὅτι βαδίζουσιν. ὥσπερ γὰρ ταῦτα πρὸς τόδε τι γέγονεν, ἅπερ κατὰ τὴν ἴδιαν κατασκευὴν ἐνεργοῦντα ἀπέχει τὸ ἴδιον, οὕτως καὶ ὁ ἄνθρωπος εὐεργετικὸς πεφυκώς, ὅπόταν τι εὐεργετικὸν ἡ ἄλλως εἰς τὰ μέσα συνεργητικὸν πράξῃ, πεποίηκε, πρὸς δὲ κατεσκεύασται, καὶ ἔχει τὸ ἑαυτοῦ.

¹ Lit. there, i.e. in thy mind.

² cp. the striking parallel in Dio 71. 24, § 2, τὸ μηδὲν πιστὸν ἐν ἀνθρώποις εἶναι : ibid. 71. 26, § 2, πίστιν καταλέσσαντι πιστὸν διαγενέσθαι, where Marcus is speaking to his soldiers on the revolt of Cassius; and 27, § 1, where, writing to the Senate, he calls Cassius ἀχάριστος. I cannot help thinking

BOOK IX

thy mind¹ that the evil for thee and the harmful have their whole existence.

Where is the harm or the strangeness in the boor acting—like a boor? See whether thou art not thyself the more to blame in not expecting that he would act thus wrongly. For thy reason too could have given thee means for concluding that this would most likely be the case. Nevertheless all this is forgotten, and thou art surprised at his wrongdoing.

But above all, when thou findest fault with a man for faithlessness and ingratitude,² turn thy thoughts to thyself. For evidently the fault is thine own, whether thou hadst faith that a man with such a character would keep faith with thee, or if in bestowing a kindness thou didst not bestow it absolutely and as from the very doing of it having at once received the full complete fruit.³

For when thou hast done a kindness, what more wouldest thou have? Is not this enough that thou hast done something in accordance with thy nature? Seekest thou a recompense for it? As though the eye should claim a guerdon for seeing, or the feet for walking! For just as these latter were made for their special work, and by carrying this out according to their individual constitution they come fully into their own, so also man, formed as he is by nature for benefiting others, when he has acted as benefactor or as co-factor in any other way for the general weal, has done what he was constituted for, and has what is his.⁴

that this section of the *Thoughts* was written at the time of the rebellion in 175, and that Marcus is here taking himself to task. ³ v. 6; vii. 73.

⁴ iv. 49; xi. 1. cp. St. Matt. vi. 2. Marcus was noted for *εὐεργεσία*, Dio 71. 34, §3; C.I.Gr. 2495, 4697°.

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ Ι

α'. Ἐση ποτὲ ἄρα, ὡς ψυχή, ἀγαθὴ καὶ ἀπλῆ
καὶ μία καὶ γυμνή, φανερωτέρα τοῦ περικειμένου
σοι σώματος; γεύση ποτὲ ἄρα τῆς φιλητικῆς καὶ
στερκτικῆς διαθέσεως; ἔση ποτὲ ἄρα πλήρης
καὶ ἀνευδεής καὶ οὐδὲν ἐπιποθούσα οὐδὲ ἐπι-
θυμούσα οὐδενὸς οὔτε ἐμψύχου οὔτε ἀψύχου
πρὸς ἥδονῶν ἀπολαύσεις; οὐδὲ χρόνου, ἐν ᾧ ἐπὶ
μακρότερον ἀπολαύσεις; οὐδὲ τόπου ἢ χώρας ἢ
ἀέρων εὐκαιρίας οὐδὲ ἀνθρώπων εὐαρμοστίας;
ἀλλὰ ἀρκεσθήσῃ τῇ παρούσῃ καταστάσει καὶ
ἥσθήσῃ τοῖς παροῦσι πᾶσι, καὶ συμπείσεις σε-
αυτήν, ὅτι πάντα, <ἄ>¹ σοι πάρεστι, παρὰ τῶν
θεῶν πάρεστι καὶ πάντα σοι εὖ ἔχει καὶ εὖ
ἔξει, ὅσα φίλον αὐτοῖς καὶ ὅσα μέλλουσι δώσειν
ἐπὶ σωτηρίᾳ τοῦ τελείου ζώου, τοῦ ἀγαθοῦ καὶ
δικαίου καὶ καλοῦ καὶ γεννῶντος πάντα καὶ
συνέχοντος καὶ περιέχοντος καὶ περιλαμβάνον-
τος διαλυόμενα εἰς γένεσιν ἑτέρων ὁμοίων; ἔση
ποτὲ ἄρα τοιαύτη, οὐα θεοῖς τε καὶ ἀνθρώποις
οὕτω συμπολιτεύεσθαι, ὡς μήτε μέμφεσθαι τι
αὐτοῖς μήτε καταγινώσκεσθαι ὑπ' αὐτῶν;

¹ <ἄ> Lemercier and Schenkl: παρὰ τῶν θεῶν πάρεστι καὶ transposed by Schenkl from before καὶ εὖ ᔁξει P.

BOOK X

1. WILT thou then, O my Soul, ever at last be good and simple and single and naked, shewing thyself more visible than the body that overlies thee? Wilt thou ever taste the sweets of a loving and a tender heart? Ever be full-filled and self-sufficing, longing for nothing, lusting after nothing animate or inanimate, for the enjoyment of pleasures—not time wherein the longer to enjoy them, nor place or country or congenial climes or men nearer to thy liking—but contented with thy present state¹ and delighted with thy present everything, convincing thyself withal that all that is present for thee is present from the Gods,² and that everything is and shall be well with thee that is pleasing to them and that they shall hereafter grant for the conservation of that Perfect Being³ that is good and just and beautiful, the Begetter and Upholder of all things, that embraces and gathers them in, when they are dissolved, to generate therefrom other like things?⁴ Wilt thou ever at last fit thyself so to be a fellow-citizen with the Gods and with men as never to find fault with them or incur their condemnation?

¹ ix. 6. ² iii. 11, § 3.

³ i.e. Zeus = the Universe = the First Cause = Nature.

⁴ vii. 23.

MARCUS AURELIUS

β'. Παρατήρει, τί σου ἡ φύσις ἐπιζητεῖ, ὡς ὑπὸ φύσεως μόνον διοικουμένου· εἴτα ποίει αὐτὸν καὶ προσίεσθαι, εἰ μὴ χεῖρον μέλλει διατίθεσθαι σου ἡ ὡς ζώου φύσις. ἔξῆς δὲ παρατηρητέον, τί ἐπιζητεῖ σου ἡ ὡς ζώου φύσις· καὶ πᾶν τοῦτο παραληπτέον, εἰ μὴ χεῖρον μέλλει διατίθεσθαι ἡ ὡς ζώου λογικοῦ φύσις· ἔστι δὲ τὸ λογικὸν εὐθὺς καὶ πολιτικόν. τούτοις δὴ κανόσι χρώμενος μηδὲν περιεργάζου.

γ'. Πᾶν τὸ συμβαῖνον ἦτοι οὕτως συμβαίνει, ὡς πέφυκας αὐτὸν φέρειν ἡ ὡς οὐ πέφυκας αὐτὸν φέρειν. εἰ μὲν οὖν συμβαίνει σοι, ὡς πέφυκας φέρειν, μὴ δυσχέραινε· ἀλλ' ὡς πέφυκας, φέρε. εἰ δέ, ὡς μὴ πέφυκας φέρειν, μὴ δυσχέραινε· φθαρήσεται γάρ σε ἀπαναλῶσαν. μέμνησο μέντοι, ὅτι πέφυκας φέρειν πᾶν, περὶ οὐ ἐπὶ τῇ ὑπολήψει ἔστι τῇ σῇ φορητὸν καὶ ἀνεκτὸν αὐτὸν ποιῆσαι, κατὰ φαντασίαν τοῦ συμφέρειν ἡ καθήκειν σεαυτῷ τοῦτο ποιεῖν.

δ'. Εἴ μὲν σφάλλεται, διδάσκειν εὔμενῶς καὶ τὸ παρορώμενον δεικνύναι· εἰ δὲ ἀδυνατεῖς, σεαυτὸν αἰτιᾶσθαι, ἡ μηδὲ σεαυτόν.

ε'. "Ο τι ἄν σοι συμβαίνῃ, τοῦτό σοι ἔξ αἰώνος προκατεσκευάζετο· καὶ ἡ ἐπιπλοκὴ τῶν αἰτίων συνέκλωθε τήν τε σὴν ὑπόστασιν ἔξ αἰδίου καὶ τὴν τούτου σύμβασιν.

ϛ'. Εἴτε ἄτομοι εἴτε φύσις, πρῶτον κείσθω, ὅτι μέρος εἰμὶ τοῦ ὅλου, ὑπὸ φύσεως διοικουμένου· ἔπειτα, ὅτι ἔχω πως οἰκείως πρὸς τὰ

BOOK X

2. Observe what thy nature asks of thee, as one controlled by Nature alone, then do this and with a good grace, if thy nature as a living creature is not to be made worse thereby. Next must thou observe what thy nature as a living creature asks of thee. And this must thou wholly accept, if thy nature as a rational living creature be not made worse thereby. Now the rational is indisputably also the civic. Comply with these rules then and be not needlessly busy about anything.

3. All that befalls either so befalls as thou art fitted by nature to bear it or as thou art not fitted.¹ If the former, take it not amiss, but bear it as thou art fitted to do. If the latter, take not that amiss either, for when it has destroyed thee, it will itself perish. Howbeit be assured that thou art fitted by nature to bear everything which it rests with thine own opinion about it to render bearable and tolerable, according as thou thinkest it thy interest or thy duty to do so.

4. If a man makes a slip, enlighten him with loving-kindness, and shew him wherein he hath seen amiss.² Failing that, blame thyself or not even thyself.

5. Whatever befalls thee was set in train for thee from everlasting, and the interplay of causes was from eternity weaving into one fabric thy existence and the coincidence of this event.³

6. Whether there be atoms or a Nature, let it be postulated first, that I am a part of the whole Universe controlled by Nature; secondly, that I stand in some intimate connexion with other kindred parts.

¹ viii. 46. ² viii. 59; xi. 9, 13, 18, § 9.

³ iii. 11; iv. 26.

MARCUS AURELIUS

όμοιογενῆ μέρη. τούτων γὰρ μεμνημένος, καθότι μὲν μέρος εἰμί, οὐδενὶ δυσαρεστήσω τῶν ἐκ τοῦ ὅλου ἀπονεμομένων· οὐδὲν γὰρ βλαβερὸν τῷ μέρει, δὲ τῷ ὅλῳ συμφέρει. οὐ γὰρ ἔχει τι τὸ ὅλον, δὲ μὴ συμφέρει ἑαυτῷ· πασῶν μὲν φύσεων κοινὸν ἔχουσῶν τούτο, τῆς δὲ τοῦ κόσμου προσειληφυίας τὸ μηδὲ ὑπό τινος ἔξωθεν αἰτίας ἀναγκάζεσθαι βλαβερόν τι ἑαυτῇ γεννᾶν.

2 Κατὰ μὲν δὴ τὸ μεμνῆσθαι, ὅτι μέρος εἴμι· ὅλου τοῦ τοιούτου, εὐαρεστήσω παντὶ τῷ ἀποβαίνοντι. καθόσον δὲ ἔχω πως οἰκείως πρὸς τὰ ὄμοιογενῆ μέρη, οὐδὲν πράξω ἀκοινώνητον, μᾶλλον δὲ στοχάσομαι τῶν ὄμοιογενῶν καὶ πρὸς τὸ κοινῆ συμφέρον πᾶσαν ὄρμὴν ἐμαυτοῦ ἄξω καὶ ἀπὸ τούναντίου ἀπάξω. τούτων δὲ οὕτω περαινομένων ἀνάγκη τὸν βίον εὔροεν, ώς ἀν καὶ πολίτου βίον εὔρουν ἐπινοήσεις προιόντος διὰ πράξεων τοῖς πολίταις λυσιτελῶν καί, δπερ ἀν ἡ πόλις ἀπονέμῃ, τοῦτο ἀσπαζομένου.

ζ. Τοῖς μέρεσι τοῦ ὅλου, ὅσα φύσει περιέχεται ὑπὸ τοῦ κόσμου, ἀνάγκη φθείρεσθαι· λεγέσθω δὲ τοῦτο σημαντικῶς τοῦ ἀλλοιούσθαι· εἰ δὲ φύσει κακόν τε καὶ ἀναγκαῖόν ἐστι τοῦτο αὐτοῖς, οὐκ ἀν τὸ ὅλον καλῶς διεξάγοιτο, τῶν μερῶν εἰς ἀλλοτρίωσιν ίόντων, καὶ πρὸς τὸ φθείρεσθαι διαφόρως κατεσκευασμένων. πότερον γὰρ ἐπεχείρησεν ἡ φύσις αὐτὴ τὰ ἑαυτῆς μέρη κακοῦν καὶ περιπτωτικὰ τῷ κακῷ καὶ ἔξ ἀνάγκης ἔμπτωτα

¹ vi. 54; x. 33, § 4.

² ix. 22.

³ These words can also be translated: *parts of herself that*
264

BOOK X

For bearing this in mind, as I am a part, I shall not be displeased with anything allotted me from the Whole. For what is advantageous to the whole can in no wise be injurious to the part.¹ For the Whole contains nothing that is not advantageous to itself; and all natures have this in common, but the Universal Nature is endowed with the additional attribute of never being forced by any external cause to engender anything hurtful to itself.

As long then as I remember that I am a part of such a whole, I shall be well pleased with all that happens; and in so far as I am in intimate connexion with the parts that are akin to myself, I shall be guilty of no unsocial act, but I shall devote my attention rather to the parts that are akin to myself,² and direct every impulse of mine to the common interest and withhold it from the reverse of this. That being done, life must needs flow smoothly, as thou mayst see the life flow smoothly of a citizen who goes steadily on in a course of action beneficial to his fellow-citizens and cheerfully accepts whatever is assigned him by the State.

7. The parts of the Whole—all that Nature has comprised in the Universe—must inevitably perish, taking “perish” to mean “be changed.” But if this process is by nature for them both evil and inevitable, the Whole could never do its work satisfactorily, its parts ever going as they do from change to change and being constituted to perish in diverse ways. Did Nature herself set her hand to bringing evil upon parts of herself and rendering them not only liable to fall into evil but of necessity fallen into it,³ were both liable to fall into such evil and by necessity fell into doing evil.

MARCUS AURELIUS

εἰς τὸ κακὸν ποιεῖν, ἡ ἔλαθεν αὐτὴν τοιάδε τινὰ γινόμενα; ἀμφότερα γὰρ ἀπίθανα.

2 Εἴ δέ τις καὶ ἀφέμενος τῆς φύσεως κατὰ τὸ πεφυκέναι ταῦτα ἔξηγοῖτο, καὶ ὡς γελοῖον ἄμα μὲν φάναι πεφυκέναι τὰ μέρη τοῦ ὅλου μεταβάλλειν, ἄμα δὲ ὡς ἐπί τινι τῶν παρὰ φύσιν συμβαινόντων θαυμάζειν ἡ δυσχεραίνειν, ἄλλως τε καὶ τῆς διαλύσεως εἰς ταῦτα γινομένης, ἐξ ὧν ἔκαστον συνίσταται. ἢτοι γὰρ σκεδασμὸς στοιχείων ἐξ ὧν συνεκρίθην, ἡ τροπὴ τοῦ μὲν στερεμνίου εἰς τὸ γεώδες, τοῦ δὲ πνευματικοῦ εἰς τὸ ἀερώδες· ὥστε καὶ ταῦτα ἀναληφθῆναι εἰς τὸν τοῦ ὅλου λόγον, εἴτε κατὰ περίοδον ἐκπυρουμένου εἴτε ἀιδίοις ἀμοιβᾶς ἀνανεουμένου.

3 Καὶ τὸ στερέμνιον δὲ καὶ τὸ πνευματικὸν μὴ φαντάζου τὸ ἀπὸ τῆς πρώτης γενέσεως. πᾶν γὰρ τοῦτο ἔχθες καὶ τρίτην ἡμέραν ἐκ τῶν σιτίων καὶ τοῦ ἐλκομένου ἀέρος τὴν ἐπιρροὴν ἔλαβεν. τοῦτο οὖν, δὲ ἔλαβεν, μεταβάλλει, οὐχ δὲ ἡ μήτηρ ἔτεκεν. ὑπόθου δ', ὅτι ἐκείνῳ σε λίαν προσπλέκει¹ τῷ ἴδιῳ ποιῷ, οὐδὲν δυντι οἷμαι πρὸς τὸ νῦν λεγόμενον.

η'. Ὄνόματα θέμενος σαντῷ ταῦτα, ἀγαθός, αἰδήμων, ἀληθής, ἔμφρων, σύμφρων, ὑπέρφρων,

¹ προσπλέκει has no subject: σέ τι Fournier: σὺ λίαν προσπλέκῃ Rend.

¹ vii. 32.

² iv. 4. Lit. the *pneumatic* or *breath element*. See Index iii.

³ iii. 3. Justin, *Apol.* i. 20; ii. 7, contrasts the Christian theory of the destruction of the world by fire with the Stoic.

⁴ προσπλέκει has no subject. ἐκείνῳ must be taken separately from τῷ ἴδιῳ ποιῷ and refer to τοῦτο δὲ ἔλαβεν.

BOOK X

or was she not aware that such was the case?
Both alternatives are incredible.

But supposing that we even put Nature as an agent out of the question and explain that these things are "naturally" so, even then it would be absurd to assert that the parts of the whole are naturally subject to change, and at the same time to be astonished at a thing or take it amiss as though it befell contrary to nature, and that though things dissolve into the very constituents out of which they are composed. For either there is a scattering of the elements¹ out of which I have been built up, or a transmutation of the solid into the earthy and of the spiritual² into the aerial; so that these too are taken back into the Reason of the Universe, whether cycle by cycle it be consumed with fire³ or renew itself by everlasting permutations.

Aye and so then do not be under the impression that the solid and the spiritual date from the moment of birth. For it was but yesterday or the day before that all this took in its increment from the food eaten and the air breathed. It is then this, that it took in, which changes, not the product of thy mother's womb. But granted that thou art ever so closely bound up⁴ with that by thy individuality, this, I take it, has no bearing upon the present argument.

8. Assuming for thyself the appellations, a good man,⁵ a modest man,⁶ a truthteller,⁷ wise of heart,

⁵ See on x. 16.

⁶ Capitolinus and Ammianus call Marcus *verecundus*.

⁷ Only two kings have had the honourable cognomen of *Truthteller*, Marcus and Alfred the Great. The former was given *Verissimus* as a pet name by Hadrian when a child, and the town of Tyras in Scythia stamped it on its coins and Justin and Syncellus use it to designate Marcus.

MARCUS AURELIUS

πρόσεχε, μήποτε μετονομάζῃ· καὶ <εἰ>¹ ἀπολλύεις ταῦτα τὰ ὄνόματα, καὶ ταχέως ἐπάνιε ἐπ' αὐτά. μέμνησο δέ, ὅτι τὸ μὲν “ἔμφρων” ἐβούλετό σοι σημαίνειν τὴν ἐφ' ἔκαστα διαληπτικὴν ἐπίστασιν καὶ τὸ ἀπαρενθύμητον τὸ δὲ “σύμφρων,” τὴν ἑκούσιον ἀπόδεξιν τῶν ὑπὸ τῆς κοινῆς φύσεως ἀπονεμομένων τὸ δὲ “ὑπέρφρων,” τὴν ὑπέρτασιν τοῦ φρουοῦντος μορίου ὑπέρ λείας ἡ τραχείας κινήσεις² τῆς σαρκὸς καὶ τὸ δοξάριον καὶ τὸν θάνατον καὶ ὅσα τοιαῦτα. ἐὰν οὖν διατηρῆς σεαυτὸν ἐν τούτοις τοῖς ὄνόμασι μὴ γλιχόμενος τοῦ ὑπ’ ἄλλων κατὰ ταῦτα ὄνομάζεσθαι, ἔσῃ ἔτερος, καὶ εἰς βίον εἰσελεύσῃ ἔτερον. τὸ γὰρ ἔτι τοιοῦτον εἶναι, οἷος μέχρι νῦν γέγονας, καὶ ἐν βίῳ τοιούτῳ σπαράσσεσθαι καὶ μολύνεσθαι, λίαν ἐστὶν ἀναισθήτου καὶ φιλοψύχου, καὶ ὁμοίου τοῖς ἡμιβρώτοις θηριομάχοις, οἵτινες μεστοὶ τραυμάτων καὶ λύθρου παρακαλοῦσιν ὅμως εἰς τὴν αὔριον φυλαχθῆναι, παραβληθησόμενοι τοιοῦτοι τοῖς αὐτοῖς ὄνυξι καὶ δήγυμασιν.

2 Ἐμβίβασον οὖν σαυτὸν εἰς τὰ ὀλίγα ταῦτα ὄνόματα· κἀν μὲν ἐπ' αὐτῶν μένειν δύνη, μένε, ὥσπερ εἰς μακάρων τινὰς νήσους μετωκισμένος· ἐὰν δὲ αἴσθῃ, ὅτι ἐκπίπτεις, καὶ οὐ περικρατεῖς, ἄπιθι θαρρῶν εἰς γωνίαν τινά, ὅπου κρατήσεις, ἡ καὶ παντάπασιν ἔξιθι τοῦ βίου μὴ ὀργιζόμενος ἄλλὰ ἀπλῶς καὶ ἐλευθέρως καὶ αἰδημόνως εὐ³

¹ <εἰ> Schenkl.

² κινήσεις Schenkl: κινήσεως Α: κίνησιν P.

³ I have written εὖ for ἐν P.A.

¹ For Marcus' views on suicide see iii. 1; v. 29; viii. 47

ad fin.; ix. 2; x. 22, 32. He permits it when external condi-

BOOK X

sympathetic of heart, great of heart, take heed thou be not new-named. And if thou shouldst forfeit these titles, e'en make haste to get back to them. And bear in mind that *wise of heart* was meant to signify for thee a discerning consideration of every object and a thoroughness of thought; *sympathetic of heart*, a willing acceptance of all that the Universal Nature allots thee; *great of heart* an uplifting of our mental part above the motions smooth or rough of the flesh, above the love of empty fame, the fear of death, and all other like things. Only keep thyself entitled to these appellations, not itching to receive them from others, and thou wilt be a new man and enter on a new life. For to be still such as thou hast been till now, and to submit to the rendings and defilements of such a life, is worthy of a man that shews beyond measure a dull senselessness and a clinging to life, and is on a level with the wild-beast fighters that are half-devoured in the arena, who, though a mass of wounds and gore, beg to be kept till the next day, only to be thrown again, torn as they are, to the same teeth and talons.

Take ship then on these few attributes, and if thou canst abide therein, so abide as one who has migrated to some Isles of the Blest. But if thou feelest thyself adrift, and canst not win thy way, betake thyself with a good heart to some nook where thou shalt prevail, or even depart altogether from life,¹ not in wrath but in simplicity, independence, and modesty, having at least done this

tions render the life of virtue impossible, or when a man finds in himself a failure to live the true life (*cp. St. Augustine's "Let me die lest I die"*).

MARCUS AURELIUS

γε τοῦτο μόνον πράξας ἐν τῷ βίῳ, τὸ οὔτως ἔξελθεῖν. πρὸς μέντοι τὸ μεμνῆσθαι τῶν ὀνομάτων μεγάλως συλλήψεται σοι τὸ μεμνῆσθαι θεῶν, καὶ ὅτιπερ οὐ κολακεύεσθαι οὗτοι θέλουσιν, ἀλλὰ ἔξομοιοῦσθαι ἑαυτοῖς τὰ λογικὰ πάντα· καὶ εἶναι τὴν μὲν συκῆν τὰ συκῆς ποιοῦσαν, τὸν δὲ κύνα τὰ κυνός, τὴν δὲ μέλισσαν τὰ μελίσσης, τὸν δὲ ἄνθρωπον τὰ ἄνθρωπου.

θ'. Μίμος, πόλεμος, πτοία, νάρκα, δουλεία, καθ' ἡμέραν ἀπαλείψεται σου τὰ ἱερὰ ἐκεῖνα δόγματα, ὅπόσα ὁ φυσιολογητὸς¹ φαντάζῃ καὶ παραπέμπεις. δεῖ δὲ πᾶν οὕτω βλέπειν καὶ πράσσειν, ὥστε καὶ τὸ περιστατικὸν² ἄμα συντελεῖσθαι καὶ ἄμα τὸ θεωρητικὸν ἐνεργεῖσθαι, καὶ τὸ ἐκ τῆς περὶ ἑκάστων ἐπιστήμης αὐθαδες σώζεσθαι λανθάνον, οὐχὶ κρυπτόμενον.

2 Πότε γὰρ ἀπλότητος ἀπολαύσεις; πότε δὲ σεμνότητος; πότε δὲ τῆς ἐφ' ἑκάστου γνωρίσεως, τί τε ἐστὶ κατ' οὐσίαν, καὶ τίνα χώραν ἔχει ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, καὶ ἐπὶ πόσον πέφυκεν ὑφίστασθαι, καὶ ἐκ τίνων συγκέκριται, καὶ τίσι δύναται ὑπάρχειν, καὶ τίνες δύνανται αὐτὸ διδόναι τε καὶ ἀφαιρεῖσθαι.

ι'. Ἀράχνιον μυῖαν θηράσαν μέγα φρονεῖ, ἄλλος δὲ λαγίδιον, ἄλλος δὲ ὑποχῇ ἀφύην, ἄλλος δὲ συῖδια, ἄλλος δὲ ἄρκτους, ἄλλος Σαρμάτας. οὗτοι γὰρ οὐ λησταί, ἐὰν τὰ δόγματα ἔξετάξῃς;

¹ ἀφυσιολογήτως Gat. (cp. ix. 41).

² πρακτικὸν (*what is practicable*) Cor.

¹ cp. Diog. Laert. *Plato*, 42; Ignat. *Eph.* §§ 1, 10; Justin, *Apol.* i. 21; Diogn. *Ep.* § 10; Julian, *Conviv.* 427. 21, puts similar words in the mouth of Marcus.

BOOK X

one thing well in life, that thou hast quitted it thus. Howbeit, to keep these attributes in mind it will assist thee greatly if thou bear the Gods in mind, and that it is not flattery they crave but for all rational things to be conformed to their likeness,¹ and that man should do a man's work, as the fig tree does the work of a fig-tree, the dog of a dog, and the bee of a bee.

9. Stage-apery, warfare, cowardice, torpor, servility—these will day by day obliterate all those holy principles of thine which, as a student of Nature,² thou dost conceive and accept. But thou must regard and do everything in such a way that at one and the same time the present task may be carried through, and full play given to the faculty of pure thought, and that the self-confidence engendered by a knowledge of each individual thing be kept intact, unobtruded yet unconcealed.

When wilt thou find thy delight in simplicity? *When* in dignity? *When* in the knowledge of each separate thing, what it is in its essence, what place it fills in the Universe, how long it is formed by Nature to subsist, what are its component parts, to whom it can pertain, and who can bestow and take it away?

10. A spider prides itself on capturing a fly; one man on catching a hare, another on netting a sprat, another on taking wild boars, another bears, another Sarmatians.³ Are not these brigands, if thou test their principles?

² ἀφυσιολογήτως, would mean *without due study of Nature*.

³ See Domaszewski, *Marcus-Saïle Plates*, 62. 102, for Marcus "taking Sarmatians"; and *cp.* the story of Alexander and the Scythian, Quintus Curtius vii. 8.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ια'. Πῶς εἰς ἄλληλα πάντα μεταβάλλει, θεωρητικὴν μέθοδον κτῆσαι, καὶ διηγεκῶς πρόσεχε, καὶ συγγυμνάσθητι περὶ τοῦτο τὸ μέρος. οὐδὲν γὰρ οὕτω μεγαλοφροσύνης ποιητικόν. ἔξεδύσατο τὸ σῶμα καὶ ἐννοήσας, ὅτι ὅσον οὐδέπω πάντα ταῦτα καταλιπεῖν ἀπιόντα ἔξ ἀνθρώπων δεήσει, ἀνῆκεν δλον ἑαυτὸν δικαιοσύνη μὲν εἰς τὰ ὑφ' ἑαυτοῦ ἐνεργούμενα, ἐν δὲ τοῖς ἄλλοις συμβαίνουσι τῇ τῶν δλων φύσει. τί δ' ἐρεῖ τις ἡ ὑπολήψεται περὶ αὐτοῦ ἡ πράξει κατ' αὐτοῦ, οὐδὲ εἰς νοῦν βάλλεται δύο τούτοις ἀρκούμενος εἰ¹ αὐτὸς δικαιοπραγεῖ τὸ νῦν πρασσόμενον καὶ φιλεῖ τὸ νῦν ἀπονεμόμενον ἑαυτῷ. ἀσχολίας δὲ πάσας καὶ σπουδὰς ἀφῆκε, καὶ οὐδὲν ἄλλο βούλεται, ἡ εὐθείαν περαίνειν διὰ τοῦ νόμου καὶ εὐθείαν περαίνοντι ἔπεσθαι τῷ θεῷ.

ιβ'. Τίς ὑπονοίας χρεία, παρὸν σκοπεῦν, τί δεῖ πραχθῆναι; κὰν μὲν συνορᾶς, εὔμενῶς ἀμεταστρεπτὶ ταύτη χωρεῖν· ἐὰν δὲ μὴ συνορᾶς, ἔπέχειν καὶ συμβούλοις τοῖς ἀρίστοις χρῆσθαι· ἐὰν δὲ ἔτερά τινα πρὸς ταῦτα ἀντιβαίνῃ, προιέναι κατὰ τὰς παρούσας ἀφορμὰς λελογισμένως ἔχόμενον τοῦ φαινομένου δικαίου. ἄριστον γὰρ κατατυγχάνειν τούτου, ἐπεί τοι ἡ γε ἀπόπτωσις ἀπὸ τούτου ἔστιν.²

2 Σχολαῖόν τι καὶ ἄμα εὐκίνητόν ἔσται καὶ φαιδρὸν ἄμα καὶ συνεστηκὸς ὁ τῷ λόγῳ κατὰ πᾶν ἐπόμενος.

ιγ'. Πυνθάνεσθαι ἑαυτοῦ εὐθὺς ἔξ ὅπνου γινόμενον· “Μήτι διοίσει σοι, ἐὰν ὑπὸ ἄλλου

¹ εἰ Jackson: εἰ A: δικαιοπραγεῖν . . . φιλεῖν P.

² ἔστω PA: ἔσται Men.

BOOK X

11. Make thy own a scientific system of enquiry into the mutual change of all things, and pay diligent heed to this branch of study and exercise thyself in it. For nothing is so conducive to greatness of mind. Let a man do this and he divests himself of his body and, realizing that he must almost at once relinquish all these things and depart from among men, he gives himself up wholly to just dealing in all his actions, and to the Universal Nature in all that befalls him. What others may say or think about him or do against him he does not even let enter his mind, being well satisfied with these two things—justice in all present acts and contentment with his present lot.¹ And he gives up all engrossing cares and ambitions, and has no other wish than to achieve the straight course through the Law and, by achieving it, to be a follower of God.

12. What need of surmise when it lies with thee to decide what should be done, and if thou canst see thy course, to take it with a good grace and not turn aside ; but if thou canst not see it, to hold back and take counsel of the best counsellors ; and if any other obstacles arise therein, to go forward as thy present means shall allow with careful deliberation holding to what is clearly just ? For to succeed in this is the best thing of all, since in fact to fail in this would be the only failure.

Leisurely without being lethargic and cheerful as well as composed shall he be who follows Reason in everything.

13. Ask thyself as soon as thou art roused from sleep : *Will it make any difference to me if another does*

¹ ix. 6 etc.

MARCUS AURELIUS

γένηται¹ τὰ δίκαια καὶ καλῶς ἔχοντα;” οὐ διοίσει. μήτι ἐπιλέλησαι, ὅτι οὗτοι οἱ ἐν τοῖς περὶ ἄλλων ἐπαίνοις καὶ ψόγοις φρυαττόμενοι, τοιοῦτοι μὲν ἐπὶ τῆς κλίνης εἰσί, τοιοῦτοι δὲ ἐπὶ τῆς τραπέζης, οἷα δὲ ποιοῦσιν, οἷα δὲ φεύγουσιν, οἷα δὲ διώκουσιν, οἷα δὲ κλέπτουσιν, οἷα δὲ ἀρπάζουσιν, οὐ χερσὶ καὶ ποσὶν ἀλλὰ τῷ τιμιωτάτῳ ἑαυτῶν μέρει, φῶ γίνεται, ὅταν θέλῃ <τις>, πίστις, αἰδώς, ἀλήθεια, νόμος, ἀγαθὸς δαίμων;

ιδ'. Τῇ πάντα διδούσῃ καὶ ἀπολαμβανούσῃ φύσει ὁ πεπαιδευμένος καὶ αἰδήμων λέγει. “Δὸς ὁ θέλεις, ἀπόλαβε ὁ θέλεις.” λέγει δὲ τοῦτο οὐ καταθρασυνόμενος, ἀλλὰ πειθαρχῶν μόνον καὶ εὐνοῶν αὐτῇ.

ιε'. Ὁλίγον ἔστι τὸ ὑπολειπόμενον τοῦτο. ξῆσον ὡς ἐν ὅρει. οὐδὲν γάρ διαφέρει, ἐκεὶ ἡ ὥδε, ἐάν τις πανταχοῦ ὡς ἐν πόλει τῷ κόσμῳ ἰδέτωσαν, ἴστορησάτωσαν οἱ ἄνθρωποι ἄνθρωπον ἀληθινὸν κατὰ φύσιν ζῶντα. εἰ μὴ φέρουσιν, ἀποκτεινάτωσαν. κρείττον γάρ ἡ οὕτω ζῆν.²

ις'. Μηκέθ' ὅλως περὶ τοῦ, οἴον τινα εἶναι τὸν ἀγαθὸν ἄνδρα <δεῖ>, διαλέγεσθαι, ἀλλὰ εἶναι τοιοῦτον.

ιζ'. Τοῦ ὅλου αἰώνος, καὶ τῆς ὅλης οὐσίας συνεχῶς φαντασία,³ καὶ ὅτι πάντα τὰ κατὰ μέρος

¹ ψέγηται Loft ; but *cp.* viii. 56 for meaning.

² ἡ <μὴ> οὕτω ζῆν would seem to make better sense.

³ φαντασία <ξτω> Reiske.

¹ vii. 3 ; ix. 41.

² iii. 4 *ad fin.* ; vi. 59 ; vii. 62 ; viii. 52, 53 ; ix. 34.

³ vii. 17. ⁴ *cp.* Job i. 21.

⁵ x. 23. This striking phrase seems from a comparison of § 23 to mean : Count your life here in the city and Court, or,

BOOK X

what is just and right? It will make none. Hast thou forgotten that those who play the wanton¹ in their praise and blame of others, are such as they are² in their beds, at their board; and what are the things that they do, the things that they avoid or pursue, and how they pilfer and plunder, not with hands and feet but with the most precious part of them, whereby a man calls into being at will faith, modesty, truth, law, and a good ‘genius’?³

14. Says the well-schooled and humble heart to Nature that gives and takes back all we have; *Give what thou will, take back what thou wilt.*⁴ But he says it without any bravado of fortitude, in simple obedience and good will to her.

15. Thou has but a short time left to live. Live as on a mountain⁵; for whether it be here or there, matters not provided that, wherever a man live, he live as a citizen of the World-City.⁶ Let men look upon thee, cite thee, as a man in very deed that lives according to Nature. If they cannot bear with thee, let them slay thee. For it were better so than to live their life.

16. Put an end once for all to this discussion of what a good man should be, and be one.⁷

17. Continually picture to thyself Time as a whole, and Substance as a whole, and every individual

maybe, camp, as no whit worse than life in the free and health-giving air of a mountain-top with all its serenity and leisure for study and contemplation. It rests with you to make your “little plot within you” what you please. But, taken alone, “Live as on a mountain” might mean “Live in the open light of day under the eyes of God and men in a purer atmosphere above the pettinesses of the world.”

⁶ iv. 3, § 2.

⁷ Dio (71. 34, § 5) says of Marcus ὡς ἀληθῶς ἀγαθὸς ἀνὴρ ήν.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ώς μὲν πρὸς οὐσίαν κεγχραμίς, ώς δὲ πρὸς χρόνον τρυπάνου περιστροφή.

ιη'. Εἰς ἔκαστον τῶν ὑποκειμένων ἐφιστάντα ἐπινοεῖν αὐτὸν ἡδη διαλυόμενον καὶ ἐν μεταβολῇ καὶ οἷον σήψει ἡ σκεδάσει γινόμενον ἡ καθότι ἔκαστον πέφυκεν ὥσπερ θυήσκειν.

ιθ'. Οἱοί εἰσιν ἐσθίοντες, καθεύδοντες, ὀχεύοντες, ἀποπατοῦντες, τὰ ἄλλα. εἴτα οἱοι ἀνδρονομούμενοι¹ καὶ γαυρούμενοι ἡ χαλεπαίνοντες καὶ ἐξ ὑπεροχῆς ἐπιπλήττοντες. πρὸ δὲ λίγου δὲ ἐδούλευνον πόσοις, καὶ δι' οἴα, καὶ μετ' ὀλίγον ἐν τοιούτοις ἔσονται.

κ'. Συμφέρει ἔκάστω, δὲ φέρει ἔκάστω ἡ τῶν ὅλων φύσις· καὶ τότε συμφέρει, ὅτε ἐκείνη φέρει.

κα'. “Ἐρᾶ μὲν ὅμβρου γαῖα· ἐρᾶ δὲ ὁ σεμνὸς αἰθήρ.” ἐρᾶ δὲ ὁ κόσμος ποιῆσαι, δὲ ἀν μέλλῃ γίνεσθαι. λέγω οὖν τῷ κόσμῳ, ὅτι “σὸν συνερῶ.” μήτι δὲ οὗτῳ κάκενο λέγεται, ὅτι “φιλεῖ τοῦτο γίνεσθαι”;

κβ'. Ἡτοι ἐνταῦθα ζῆς καὶ ἡδη εἴθικας, ἡ ἔξω ὑπάγεις καὶ τοῦτο ἡθελεῖς, ἡ ἀποθυήσκεις καὶ ἀπελειτούργησας· παρὰ δὲ ταῦτα οὐδέν. οὐκοῦν εὐθύμει.

κγ'. Ἐναργὲς ἔστω ἀεὶ τό, ὅτι τοιοῦτο ἐκεῖνο² ὁ ἀγρός ἔστι· καὶ πῶς πάντα ἔστὶ ταῦτα ἐνθάδε τοῖς ἐν ἄκρῳ τῷ ὅρει, ἡ ἐπὶ τοῦ αἰγιαλοῦ,

¹ ἀνδρονομενοι can hardly be right, but ἀνδρογυνομενοι which at once occurs to one is soon seen to be out of keeping with the other words in the passage: ἀβρυνθμενοι Reiske.

² ἐκεῖνος Reiske: τοῦτο ἐκεῖνο Cor.: ταῦτὸ ἐκεῖνο Richards.

BOOK X

thing, in respect of substance, as but a fig-seed and, in respect to time, as but a twist of the drill.

18. Regarding attentively every existing thing reflect that it is already disintegrating and changing, and as it were in a state of decomposition and dispersion, or that everything is by nature made but to die.

19. What are they like when eating, sleeping, coupling, evacuating, and the rest! What again when lording it over others, when puffed up with pride, when filled with resentment or rebuking others from a loftier plane! Yet but a moment ago they were lackeying how many and for what ends, and anon will be at their old trade.¹

20. What the Universal Nature brings to every thing is for the benefit of that thing, and for its benefit then when she brings it.²

21. *The earth is in love with showers and the majestic sky is in love.*³ And the Universe is in love with making whatever has to be. To the Universe I say: *Together with thee I will be in love.* Is it not a way we have of speaking, to say, *This or that loves to be so?*

22. Either thy life is here and thou art inured to it; or thou goest elsewhere and this with thine own will; or thou diest and hast served out thy service. There is no other alternative. Take heart then.

23. Never lose sight of the fact that a man's 'freehold'⁴ is such as I told thee, and how all the conditions are the same here as on the top of a

¹ Or, taking Gataker's emendation (*δπολοις*), *in what plight will they be!* ² iv. 23.

³ Eur. *Frag.* 890. After σεμνὸς Eur. has οὐρανὸς πληρούμενος 'Ομβρον πεσεῖν εἰς γαῖαν Ἀφροδίτης ὑπο. cp. Aesch. *Dan. Frag.* 41, imitated by Shelley in his *Love's Philosophy*.

⁴ v. 3, § 4.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἡ ὅπου θέλεις. ἄντικρυς γὰρ εύρησεις τὰ τοῦ Πλάτωνος· “Σηκὸν ἐν ὅρει,” φησί, “περιβαλλόμενος,” καὶ¹ τβδάλλων βληχήματα.†

κδ'. Τί ἔστι μοι τὸ ἡγεμονικόν μου; καὶ ποῖον τι ἔγω αὐτὸ ποιῶ νῦν; καὶ πρὸς τί ποτε αὐτῷ νῦν χρῶμαι; μήτι κενὸν νοῦ ἔστι; μήτι ἀπόλυτον καὶ ἀπεσπασμένον κοινωνίας; μήτι προστετηκὸς καὶ ἀνακεκραμένον τῷ σαρκιδίῳ, ὥστε τούτῳ συντρέπεσθαι;

κε. Ο τὸν κύριον φεύγων δραπέτης· κύριος δὲ ὁ νόμος καὶ ὁ παρανομῶν δραπέτης. ἀλλὰ καὶ ὁ λυπούμενος ἡ ὀργιζόμενος ἡ φοβούμενος οὐ² βούλεται τι γεγονέναι ἡ γένεσθαι ἡ γενέσθαι τῶν ὑπὸ τοῦ τὰ πάντα διοικοῦντος τεταγμένων, ὃς ἔστι νόμος νέμων, ὃσα ἐκάστῳ ἐπιβάλλει. ὁ ἄρα φοβούμενος ἡ λυπούμενος ἡ ὀργιζόμενος δραπέτης.

κς'. Σπέρμα εἰς μήτραν ἀφεὶς ἀπεχώρησε καὶ λοιπὸν ἄλλη αἰτίᾳ παραλαβοῦσα ἐργάζεται καὶ ἀποτελεῖ βρέφος, ἐξ οἷου οἰον· πάλιν τροφὴν διὰ φάρυγγος ἀφῆκε καὶ λοιπὸν ἄλλη αἰτίᾳ παραλαβοῦσα αἴσθησιν καὶ ὄρμὴν καὶ τὸ δόλον ζωῆν καὶ ῥώμην καὶ ἄλλα ὅσα καὶ οὐα ποιεῖ. ταῦτα οὖν [τὰ] ἐν τοιαύτῃ ἐγκαλύψει γινόμενα

¹ καὶ, perhaps κάκεῖ : βδάλλων Cor.: βδάλλειν A: βάλλειν P: βληχήματα Stich.: βλήχματα A. ² οὐ Nauck: δ PA.

¹ iv. 3 ad init. ; x. 15.

² Theaet. 174 D: Ἀγροῦκον καὶ ἀπαίδευτον ἀπὸ ἀσχολίας οὐδὲν ἔττον τῶν νομέων τὸν τοιοῦτον ἀναγκαῖον γενέσθαι σηκὸν ἐν δρει τὸ τεῖχος περιβεβλημένον. It is not easy to see the application of the words here. Marcus seems to mean that the king in the midst of his royal city is no better off, *ipso facto*, than

BOOK X

mountain¹ or on the sea-shore or wherever thou pleasest. Quite apposite shalt thou find to be the words of Plato²: *Compassed about (by the city wall as) by a sheep-fold on the mountain*, and milking flocks.

24. What is my ruling Reason and what am I making of it now? To what use do I now put it? Is it devoid of intelligence? Is it divorced and severed from neighbourliness? Does it so coalesce and blend with the flesh as to be swayed by it?

25. He that flies from his master is a runaway. But the Law is our master,³ and he that transgresses the Law is a runaway. Now he also, that is moved by grief or wrath or fear, is fain that something should not have happened or be happening or happen in the future of what has been ordained by that which controls the whole Universe, that is by the Law laying down all that falls to a man's lot. He then is a runaway who is moved by fear, grief, or wrath.

26. A man passes seed into a womb and goes his way, and anon another cause takes it in hand and works upon it and perfects a babe—what a consummation from what a beginning!⁴ Again he⁵ passes food down the throat, and anon another cause taking up the work creates sensation and impulse and in fine, life and strength and other things how many and how mysterious! Muse then on these

the shepherd in his mountain fold. It is the little “plot within him,” his ruling Reason that makes the difference. The use of *εν λόπει* twice in this section appears to have a reference to its use in § 15. ³ ii. 16 *ad fin.*

⁴ cp. the remarkable parallel in Justin, *Apol.* i. 19.

⁵ There is no subject expressed. It is possible to take the child as the subject.

MARCUS AURELIUS

θεωρεῖν καὶ τὴν δύναμιν οὔτως ὄρâν, ώς καὶ τὴν
βρίθουσαν καὶ τὴν ἀνωφερῆ ὄρῶμεν, οὐχὶ τοῖς
ὅφθαλμοῖς, ἀλλ' οὐχ ἥττον ἐναργῶς.

κξ. Συνεχῶς ἐπινοεῖν, πῶς πάντα τοιαῦτα,
όποια νῦν γίνεται, καὶ πρόσθεν ἐγίνετο· καὶ
ἐπινοεῖν γενησόμενα. καὶ ὅλα δράματα καὶ
σκηνὰς ὁμοειδεῖς, ὅσα ἐκ πείρας τῆς σῆς ἢ τῆς
πρεσβυτέρας ἴστορίας ἔγνως, πρὸ δὲ μάτων
τίθεσθαι, οἷον αὐλὴν ὅλην Ἀδριανοῦ καὶ αὐλὴν
ὅλην Ἀντωνίνου καὶ αὐλὴν ὅλην Φιλίππου,
Ἀλεξάνδρου, Κροίσου· πάντα γὰρ ἐκεῖνα τοιαῦτα
ἥν, μόνον δι’ ἑτέρων.

κη'. Φαντάζου πάντα τὸν ἐφ' φτινιοῦν λυπού-
μενον ἢ δυσαρεστοῦντα ὅμοιον τῷ θυμούνῳ χοιρ-
ιδίῳ καὶ ἀπολακτίζοντι καὶ κεκραγότι ὅμοιον καὶ
ὁ οἰμώζων ἐπὶ τοῦ κλινιδίου μόνος σιωπῇ τὴν
ἔνδεσιν ἡμῶν· καὶ ὅτι μόνῳ τῷ λογικῷ ζῷῳ
δέδοται τὸ ἐκουσίως ἐπεσθαι τοῖς γινομένοις· τὸ
δὲ ἐπεσθαι ψιλὸν πᾶσιν ἀναγκαῖον.

κθ'. Κατὰ μέρος ἐφ' ἕκαστον, ὡν ποιεῖς,
ἐφιστάνων ἐρώτα σεαυτόν, “Εἰ ὁ θάνατος δεινὸν
διὰ τὸ τούτου στέρεσθαι.”

λ'. “Οταν προσκόπτῃς ἐπί τινος ἀμαρτίᾳ,
εὐθὺς μεταβὰς ἐπιλογίζου, τί παρόμοιον ἀμαρτάν-
εις· οἷον ἀργύριον ἀγαθὸν εἶναι κρίνων <ἢ>
τὴν ἡδουὴν ἢ τὸ δοξάριον καὶ κατ' εἶδος.

¹ vii. 49.

² viii. 25, 31.

³ cp. Sen. Ep. 107: *ducunt volentem fata nolentem trahunt*; de Vit. Beat. 15; Cleanthes, *Hymn to Zeus*: ὡς ἐψομαὶ γ' δοκνος· ἡν δὲ μηθελω κακὸς γενόμενος, οὐδεν ἥττον ἐψομαι.

⁴ vii. 26; xi. 18, § 4.

⁵ Marcus had a horror of avarice; cp. Vulc. Gallic. Vit.

BOOK X

things that are done in such secrecy, and detect the efficient force, just as we detect the descensive and the ascensive none the less clearly that it is not with our eyes.

27. Bear in mind continually how all such things as now exist existed also before our day¹ and, be assured, will exist after us. Set before thine eyes whole dramas and their settings, one like another, all that thine own experience has shewn thee or thou hast learned from past history, for instance the entire court of Hadrianus,² the entire court of Antoninus, the entire court of Philip, of Alexander, of Croesus. For all those scenes were such as we see now, only the performers being different.

28. Picture to thyself every one that is grieved at any occurrence whatever or dissatisfied, as being like the pig which struggles and screams when sacrificed; like it too him who, alone upon his bed, bewails in silence the fetters of our fate; and that to the rational creature alone has it been granted to submit willingly to what happens, mere submission being imperative on all.³

29. In every act of thine pause at each step and ask thyself: *Is death to be dreaded for the loss of this?*

30. Does another's wrong-doing shock thee? Turn incontinently to thyself and bethink thee what analogous wrong-doing there is of thine own,⁴ such as deeming money to be a good⁵ or pleasure⁶ or a little cheap fame⁷ and the like. For by marking

Avid. Cass. viii. 5 : in imperatore avaritiam acerbissimum esse malum. Yet he was accused of it and repudiated the charge (Capit. xxix. 5); and he is also exculpated by Dio (71. 32, § 3), and in the Oxyrr. Papyri (i. p. 62) we find an Egyptian official expressly calling him *ἀφιλάργυρος*.

⁶ See on v. 5.

⁷ See on iv. 19.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τούτῳ γάρ ἐπιβάλλων ταχέως ἐπιλήσῃ τῆς
δργῆς συμπίπτοντος τοῦ, ὅτι βιάζεται· τί γὰρ
ποιήσει; ἢ, εἰ δύνασαι, ἄφελε αὐτοῦ τὸ βιάζ-
όμενον.

λα'. Σατύρωνα ἵδων Σωκρατικὸν φαντάζου
ἡ Εὔτυχην ἡ Τμένα, καὶ Εὐφράτην ἵδων
Εύτυχίωνα ἡ Σιλουανὸν φαντάζου, καὶ Ἀλκί-
φρονα Τροπαιοφόρον φαντάζου, καὶ Σευῆρον¹
ἵδων Κρίτωνα ἡ Ξενοφῶντα φαντάζου, καὶ εἰς
έαυτὸν ἀπιδὼν τῶν Καισάρων τινὰ φαντάζου,
καὶ ἐφ' ἐκάστου τὸ ἀνάλογον. εἴτα συμπροσπιπτ-
έτω σοι· “Ποῦ οὖν ἔκείνοι;” οὐδαμοῦ ἡ ὁπούδη.
οὗτοις γάρ συνεχῶς θεάση τὰ ἀνθρώπινα καπνὸν
καὶ τὸ μηδέν μάλιστα ἐὰν συμμυημονεύσῃς, ὅτι
τὸ ἄπαξ μεταβαλὸν οὐκέτι ἔσται ἐν τῷ ἀπείρῳ
χρόνῳ. τί οὖν² ἔντείνῃ; τί δ' οὐκ ἀρκεῖ σοι τὸ
βραχὺ τοῦτο κοσμίως διαπερᾶσαι;

2 Οἶαν ὅλην καὶ ὑπόθεσιν φεύγεις; τί γάρ ἔστι
πάντα ταῦτα ἄλλο πλὴν γυμνάσματα λόγου ἑωρ-
ακότος ἀκριβῶς καὶ φυσιολόγως τὰ ἐν τῷ βίῳ;
μένε οὖν, μέχρι ἐξοικειώσης σαυτῷ καὶ ταῦτα, ὡς
ὁ ἐρρωμένος στόμαχος πάντα ἐξοικειοῦ, ὡς τὸ
λαμπρὸν πῦρ, δ τι ἀν βάλῃ, φλόγα ἐξ αὐτοῦ καὶ
αὐγὴν ποιεῖ.

λβ'. Μηδενὶ ἐξέστω εἰπεῖν ἀληθεύοντι περὶ
σοῦ, ὅτι οὐχ ἀπλοῦς ἡ ὅτι οὐκ ἀγαθός· ἀλλὰ

¹ Leopold transposed Σευῆρον (see i. 14) and Ξενοφῶντα.

² σὺ (τί Α) οὖν Ρ : ἐν τίνι ΡΑ : ἔντεινη Cor. (cp. ix. 28).

¹ vii. 63.

² Xenophon and Crito are well known. Severus was probably the father of Marcus' son-in-law (i. 14). Euphrates

BOOK X

this thou wilt quickly forget thy wrath, with this reflection too to aid thee, that a man is under constraint¹; for what should he do? Or, if thou art able, remove the constraint.

31. Let a glance at Satyron call up the image of Socratus or Eutyches or Hymen, and a glance at Euphrates the image of Eutychion or Silvanus, and a glance at Alciphron Tropaeophorus, and at Severus Xenophon or Crito.² Let a glance at thyself bring to mind one of the Caesars, and so by analogy in every case. Then let the thought strike thee : *Where are they now?* Nowhere,³ or none can say where. For thus shalt thou habitually look upon human things as mere smoke⁴ and as naught; and more than ever so, if thou bethink thee that what has once changed will exist no more throughout eternity. Why strive then and strain⁵? Why not be content to pass this thy short span of life in becoming fashion?

What material, what a field for thy work dost thou forgo! For what are all these things but objects for the exercise of a reason that hath surveyed with accuracy and due inquiry into its nature the whole sphere of life? Continue then until thou hast assimilated these truths also to thyself, as the vigorous digestion assimilates every food, or the blazing fire converts into warmth and radiance whatever is cast into it.⁶

32. Give no one the right to say of thee with truth that thou art not a sincere, that thou art not a was the philosopher friend of Pliny and Hadrian. Nothing certain is known of the others.

³ vii. 58.

⁴ xii. 33 and verses at end of ms. A. See Introd. p. 1.

⁵ The ms. reading *what then* (or, *thou then*) in *what?* is unintelligible.

⁶ iv. 1.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ψευδέσθω, ὅστις τούτων τι περὶ σοῦ ὑπολήψεται.
πᾶν δὲ τοῦτο ἐπὶ σοί. τίς γὰρ ὁ κωλύων ἀγαθὸν
εἶναι σε καὶ ἀπλοῦν; σὺ μόνον κρίνον μηκέτι ζῆν,
εἰ μὴ τοιοῦτος ἔσῃ. οὐδὲ γὰρ αἴρει λόγος μὴ
τοιοῦτον ὄντα.

λγ'. Τί ἔστι τὸ ἐπὶ ταύτης τῆς ὕλης δυνάμενον
κατὰ τὸ ὑγιέστατον πραχθῆναι ἢ ρήθῆναι; ὅ τι
γὰρ ἀν τοῦτο ἡ, ἔξεστιν αὐτὸ πρᾶξαι ἢ εἰπεῖν
καὶ μὴ προφασίζου ὡς κωλυόμενος.

2 Οὐ πρότερον παύσῃ στένων, πρὶν ἡ τοῦτο πάθης,
ὅτι οἶόν ἔστι τοῖς ἡδυπαθοῦσιν ἢ τρυφή, τοιοῦτό
σοι τὸ ἐπὶ τῆς ὑποβαλλομένης καὶ ὑποπιπτούσης
ὕλης ποιεῖν τὰ οἰκεῖα τῇ τοῦ ἀνθρώπου κατασκευῇ·
ἀπόλαυσιν γὰρ δεῖ ὑπολαμβάνειν πᾶν, ὃ ἔξεστι
κατὰ τὴν ἴδιαν φύσιν ἐνεργεῖν. πανταχοῦ δὲ
ἔξεστι.

3 Τῷ μὲν οὖν κυλίνδρῳ οὐ πανταχοῦ δίδοται
φέρεσθαι τὴν ἴδιαν κίνησιν οὐδὲ τῷ ὕδατι οὐδὲ
πυρὶ οὐδὲ τοῖς ἄλλοις, ὅσα ὑπὸ φύσεως ἢ ψυχῆς
ἄλογου διοικεῖται· τὰ γὰρ διείργοντα καὶ ἐνιστά-
μενα πολλά. νοῦς δὲ καὶ λόγος διὰ παντὸς τοῦ
ἀντιπίπτοντος οὕτως πορεύεσθαι δύναται, ὡς
πέφυκε καὶ ὡς θέλει. ταύτην τὴν ῥαστώνην
πρὸ ὄμμάτων τιθέμενος, καθ' ἣν ἐνεχθῆσεται ὁ
λόγος διὰ πάντων, ὡς πῦρ ἄνω, ὡς λίθος κάτω, ὡς
κύλινδρος κατὰ πρανοῦς, μηκέτι μηδὲν ἐπιζήτει·
τὰ γὰρ λοιπὰ ἐγκόμματα ἦτοι τοῦ σωματικοῦ
ἔστι τοῦ νεκροῦ ἢ χωρὶς ὑπολήψεως καὶ τῆς
αὐτοῦ τοῦ λόγου ἐνδόσεως οὐ θραύσει οὐδὲ ποιεῖ

¹ viii. 32.

² v. 29; x. 8, § 2.

BOOK X

good man, but let anyone that shall form any such an idea of thee be as one that maketh a lie. All this rests with thee. For who is there to hinder thee from being good and sincere¹? Resolve then to live no longer if thou be not such.² For neither doth Reason in that case insist that thou shouldest.

33. Taking our 'material' into account, what can be said or done in the soundest way? Be it what it may, it rests with thee to do or say it. And let us have no pretence that thou art being hindered.

Never shalt thou cease murmuring until it be so with thee that the utilizing, in a manner consistent with the constitution of man, of the material presented to thee and cast in thy way shall be to thee what indulgence is to the sensual. For everything must be accounted enjoyment that it is in a man's power to put into practice in accordance with his own nature; and it is everywhere in his power.

A cylinder we know has no power given it of individual motion everywhere, nor has fire or water or any other thing controlled by Nature or by an irrational soul. For the interposing and impeding obstacles are many. But Intelligence and Reason make their way through every impediment just as their nature or their will prompts them. Setting before thine eyes this ease wherewith the Reason can force its way through every obstacle, as fire upwards, as a stone downwards, as a cylinder down a slope,³ look for nothing beyond. For other hindrances either concern that veritable corpse, the body,⁴ or, apart from imagination and the surrender of Reason herself, cannot crush us or work any harm at all.⁵

³ Aul. Gell. vi. 2, § 11 (from Chrysippus).

⁴ iv. 41.

⁵ iv. 7.

MARCUS AURELIUS

κακὸν οὐδ' ὄτιοῦν· ἐπεὶ τοι καὶ ὁ πάσχων αὐτὸς
κακὸς ἀν εὐθὺς ἐγίνετο.

4 Ἐπὶ γοῦν τῶν ἄλλων κατασκευασμάτων πάντων, ὅ τι ἀν κακόν τινι αὐτῶν συμβῆ, παρὰ τοῦτο χεῖρον γίνεται αὐτὸς τὸ πάσχον· ἐνταῦθα δέ, εἰ δεῖ εἰπεῖν, καὶ κρείττων γίνεται ὁ ἀνθρωπος καὶ ἐπαινετώτερος, ὁρθῶς χρώμενος τοῖς προσπίπτουσιν. ὅλως δὲ μέμνησο, ὅτι τὸν φύσει πολίτην οὐδὲν βλάπτει, ὃ πόλιν οὐ βλάπτει, οὐδέ γε πόλιν βλάπτει, ὃ νόμον οὐ βλάπτει τούτων δὲ τῶν καλουμένων ἀκληρημάτων οὐδὲν βλάπτει νόμον. ὃ τοίνυν νόμον οὐ βλάπτει, οὔτε πόλιν οὔτε πολίτην.

λδ'. Τῷ δεδηγμένῳ ὑπὸ τῶν ἀληθῶν δογμάτων ἀρκεῖ καὶ τὸ βραχύτατον καὶ ἐν μέσῳ κείμενον εἰς ὑπόμνησιν ἀλυπίας καὶ ἀφοβίας. οἶον

“Φύλλα τὰ μέν τ' ἄνεμος χαμάδις χέει,
ῶς ἀνδρῶν γενεή.” .

φυλλάρια δὲ καὶ τὰ τεκνία σου· φυλλάρια δὲ καὶ ταῦτα τὰ ἐπιβοῶντα ἀξιοπίστως καὶ ἐπευφημοῦντα ἢ ἐκ τῶν ἐναντίων καταρόμενα ἢ ἡσυχῇ ψέγοντα καὶ χλευάζοντα· φυλλάρια δὲ ὄμοιῶς καὶ τὰ διαδεξόμενα τὴν ὑστεροφημίαν. πάντα γὰρ ταῦτα “ἔαρος ἐπιγίγνεται ὥρῃ.”

εἴτα ἄνεμος καταβέβληκεν· ἔπειθ' ὕλη ἔτερα ἀντὶ τούτων φύει. τὸ δὲ ὀλιγοχρόνιον κοινὸν πᾶσιν· ἀλλὰ σὺ πάντα, ως αἰώνια ἐσόμενα,

¹ vii. 58.

² x. 6.

³ Hom. Il. vi. 147.

BOOK X

Else indeed would their victim at once become bad.

In fact in the case of all other organisms, if any evil happen to any of them, the victim itself becomes the worse for it. But a man so circumstanced becomes, if I may so say, better and more praiseworthy by putting such contingencies to a right use.¹ In fine, remember that nothing that harms not the city can harm him whom Nature has made a citizen²; nor yet does that harm a city which harms not law. But not one of the so-called mischances harms law. What does not harm law, then, does no harm to citizen or city.

34. Even an obvious and quite brief aphorism can serve to warn him that is bitten with the true doctrines against giving way to grief and fear; as for instance,

Such are the races of men as the leaves that the wind scatters earthwards.³

And thy children too are little leaves. Leaves also they who make an outcry as if they ought to be listened to, and scatter their praises or, contrariwise, their curses, or blame and scoff in secret. Leaves too they that are to hand down our after-fame. For all these things

Burgeon again with the season of spring⁴;

anon the wind hath cast them down,⁵ and the forest puts forth others in their stead. Transitoriness is the common lot of all things, yet there is none of these that thou hunttest not after or shunnest,

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *cp. Psalm 103. 16.*

MARCUS AURELIUS

φεύγεις καὶ διώκεις. μικρὸν καὶ καταμύσεις· τὸν δὲ ἔξενεγκόντα σε ἥδη ἄλλος θρηνήσει.

λέ· Γὸν ὑγιαίνοντα ὁφθαλμὸν πάντα ὄρᾶν δεῖ τὰ ὄρατὰ καὶ μὴ λέγειν, “τὰ χλωρὰ θέλω.” τοῦτο γὰρ ὁφθαλμιῶντός ἐστι. καὶ τὴν ὑγιαίνουσαν ἀκοὴν καὶ ὅσφρησιν εἰς πάντα δεῖ τὰ ἀκουστὰ καὶ ὁσφραντὰ ἔτοίμην εἶναι. καὶ τὸν ὑγιαίνοντα στόμαχον πρὸς πάντα τὰ τρόφιμα ὄμοιώς ἔχειν, ώς μυλῆν πρὸς πάντα, ὅσα ἀλέσουσα κατεσκευασται. καὶ τοίνυν τὴν ὑγιαίνουσαν διάνοιαν πρὸς πάντα δεῖ τὰ συμβαίνοντα ἔτοίμην εἶναι· ἡ δὲ λέγουσα, “Τὰ τεκνία σωζέσθω,” καὶ “πάντες, ὅ τι ἀν πράξω, ἐπαινείτωσαν,” ὁφθαλμός ἐστι τὰ χλωρὰ ζητῶν ἡ ὁδόντες τὰ ἀπαλά.

λε· Οὐδείς ἐστιν οὕτως εὔποτμος, ω̄ ἀποθνήσκοντι οὐ παρεστήξονται τινες ἀσπαζόμενοι τὸ συμβαῖνον κακόν. σπουδαῖος καὶ σοφὸς ἦν· [μὴ] τὸ πανύστατον ἔσται τις ὁ καθ' αὐτὸν λέγων· “Αναπνεύσομέν ποτε ἀπὸ τούτου τοῦ παιδαγωγοῦ. χαλεπὸς μὲν οὐδενὶ ἡμῶν ἦν, ἀλλὰ ἡσθανόμην, ὅτι ἡσυχῇ καταγινώσκει ἡμῶν.” ταῦτα μὲν οὖν ἐπὶ τοῦ σπουδαίου. ἐφ’ ἡμῶν δὲ πόσα ἄλλα ἐστί, δι’ ἂ πολὺς ὁ ἀπαλλακτιῶν ἡμῶν. τοῦτο οὖν ἐννοήσεις ἀποθνήσκων καὶ εὐκολώτερον ἔξελεύση λογιζόμενος· ἐκ τοιούτου βίου ἀπέρχομαι, ἐν ω̄ αὐτοὶ οἱ κοινωνοί, ὑπὲρ ὧν τὰ τοσαῦτα ἡγωνισάμην, ηὐξάμην, ἐφρόντισα, αὐτοὶ ἐκεῖνοι ἐθέλουσί με ὑπάγειν ἄλλην τινὰ τυχὸν ἐκ τούτου ῥᾳστώνην

¹ iv. 48.

² i. 8; vii. 41; viii. 49; ix. 40; xi. 34. Marcus was intensely fond of his children. Galen describes (xiv. 3, Kühn)

BOOK X

as though it were everlasting. A little while and thou shalt close thine eyes; aye, and for him that bore thee to the grave shall another presently raise the dirge.¹

35. The sound eye should see all there is to be seen, but should not say: *I want what is green only.* For that is characteristic of a disordered eye. And the sound hearing and smell should be equipped for all that is to be heard or smelled. And the sound digestion should act towards all nutriment as a mill towards the grist which it was formed to grind. So should the sound mind be ready for all that befalls. But the mind that says: *Let my children be safe!*² *Let all applaud my every act!* is but as an eye that looks for green things or as teeth that look for soft things.

36. There is no one so fortunate as not to have one or two standing by his death-bed who will welcome the evil which is befalling him. Say he was a worthy man and a wise; will there not be some one at the very end to say in his heart, *We can breathe again at last, freed from this schoolmaster,*³ *not that he was hard on any of us, but I was all along conscious that he tacitly condemns us?* So much for the worthy, but in our own case how many other reasons can be found for which hundreds would be only too glad to be quit of us! Think then upon this when dying, and thy passing from life will be easier if thou reason thus: I am leaving a life in which even my intimates for whom I have so greatly toiled, prayed, and thought,⁴ aye even they wish me gone, expecting belike to gain thereby

his anxiety about Commodus; *cp.* also Fronto, *ad Cues.* iv. 12. ³ *cp.* Vopiscus, *Vit. Aurelani*, 37, §3; Sen. *Ep.* 11.

⁴ Herodian, i. 4, §3.

MARCUS AURELIUS

έλπίζοντες. τί ἀν οὖν τις ἀντέχοιτο τῆς ἐνταῦθα μακροτέρας διατριβῆς;

2 Μὴ μέντοι διὰ τοῦτο ἔλαττον εὔμενής αὐτοῖς ἄπιθι, ἀλλὰ τὸ ἴδιον ἔθος διασώζων φίλος καὶ εὔνους καὶ ἵλεως· καὶ μὴ πάλιν ὡς ἀποσπώμενος, ἀλλ' ὕσπερ ἐπὶ τοῦ εὐθανατοῦντος εὐκόλως τὸ ψυχάριον ἀπὸ τοῦ σώματος ἔξειλεῖται, τοιαύτην καὶ τὴν ἀπὸ τούτων ἀποχώρησιν δεῖ γενέσθαι· καὶ γὰρ τούτοις ἡ φύσις <σε> συνῆψε καὶ συνέκρινεν. ἀλλὰ νῦν διαλύει. διαλύομαι ὡς ἀπὸ οἰκείων μέν, οὐ μὴν ἀνθελκόμενος, ἀλλ' ἀβιάστως· ἐν γὰρ καὶ τοῦτο τῶν κατὰ φύσιν.

λξ. "Εθισον ἐπὶ παντός, ὡς οἶόν τε, τοῦ πρασσομένου ὑπό τινος ἐπιζητεῦν κατὰ σαυτόν. "Ούτος τοῦτο ἐπὶ τί ἀναφέρει;" ἄρχου δὲ ἀπὸ σαυτοῦ, καὶ σαυτὸν πρῶτον ἔξεταζε.

λη'. Μέμνησο, ὅτι τὸ νευροσπαστοῦν ἐστιν ἐκεῖνο τὸ ἔνδον ἐγκεκρυμμένον· ἐκεῖνο ρήτορεία,†¹ ἐκεῖνο ζωή, ἐκεῖνο, εἰ δεῖ εἰπεῖν, ἄνθρωπος. μηδέποτε συμπεριφαντάζου τὸ περικείμενον ἀγγειώδες καὶ τὰ ὄργανα ταῦτα τὰ περιπεπλασμένα. ὅμοια γάρ ἐστι σκεπάρνῳ, μόνον διαφέροντα, καθότι προσφυῇ ἐστιν. ἐπεὶ τοι οὐ μᾶλλον τι τούτων ὅφελός ἐστι τῶν μορίων χωρὶς τῆς κινούσης καὶ ἰσχούσης αὐτὰ αἰτίας ἢ τῆς κερκίδος τῇ ὑφαντρίᾳ, καὶ τοῦ καλάμου τῷ γράφοντι, καὶ τοῦ μαστιγίου τῷ ἥνιοχῳ.

¹ φητορία A. Perhaps ιστορία.

BOOK X

some further ease.¹ Why then should anyone cling to a longer sojourn here?

Howbeit go away with no less kindness towards them on this account, but maintaining thy true characteristics be friendly and goodnatured and gracious; nor again as though wrenched apart, but rather should thy withdrawal from them be as that gentle slipping away of soul from body which we see when a man makes a peaceful end. For it was Nature that knit and kneaded thee with them, and now she parts the tie. I am parted from kinsfolk, not dragged forcibly away, but unresistingly. For this severance too is a process of Nature.²

37. In every act of another habituate thyself as far as may be to put to thyself the question : *What end has the man in view?*³ But begin with thyself, cross-examine thyself first.

38. Bear in mind that what pulls the strings is that Hidden Thing within us : *that* makes our speech, *that* our life, *that*, one may say, makes the man. Never in thy mental picture of it include the vessel that overlies it⁴ nor these organs that are appurtenances thereof. They are like the workman's adze, only differing from it in being naturally attached to the body. Since indeed, severed from the Cause that bids them move and bids them stay, those parts are as useless as is the shuttle of the weaver, the pen of the writer, and the whip of the charioteer.

¹ Is he thinking of Commodus? ² ix. 3.

³ ii. 16. ⁴ iii. 3 *ad fin.*; xii. 1.

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ ΙΑ

α'. Τὰ ἴδια τῆς λογικῆς ψυχῆς· ἔαυτὴν ὁρᾶ, ἔαυτὴν διαρθροῖ, ἔαυτήν, ὅποιαν ἀν βούληται, ποιεῖ, τὸν καρπὸν ὃν φέρει αὐτὴ καρποῦται —τοὺς γὰρ τῶν φυτῶν καρποὺς καὶ τὸ ἀνάλογον ἐπὶ τῶν ζώων ἄλλοι καρποῦνται,—τοῦ ἴδίου τέλους τυγχάνει, ὅπου ἀν τὸ τοῦ βίου πέρας ἐπιστῇ. οὐχ' ὡσπερ ἐπὶ ὁρχήσεως καὶ ὑποκρίσεως, καὶ τῶν τοιούτων, ἀτελῆς γίνεται ἡ ὅλη πρᾶξις, ἐάν τι ἐγκόψῃ· ἀλλ' ἐπὶ παντὸς μέρους, καὶ ὅπου ἀν καταληφθῇ, πλῆρες καὶ ἀπροσδεὲς ἔαυτῇ τὸ προτεθὲν ποιεῖ, ὥστε εἰπεῖν, “ἐγὼ ἀπέχω τὰ ἐμά.”

2 "Ετι δὲ περιέρχεται τὸν ὅλον κόσμον, καὶ τὸ περὶ αὐτὸν κενόν, καὶ τὸ σχῆμα αὐτοῦ, καὶ εἰς τὴν ἀπειρίαν τοῦ αἰῶνος ἔκτείνεται, καὶ τὴν περιοδικὴν παλιγγενεσίαν τῶν ὅλων ἐμπεριλαμβάνει καὶ περινοεῖ, καὶ θεωρεῖ ὅτι οὐδὲν νεώτερον ὅψονται οἱ μεθ' ἡμᾶς οὐδὲ περιττότερον εἶδον οἱ πρὸ ἡμῶν· ἀλλὰ τρόπον τινὰ ο τεσσαρακοντούτης, ἐὰν νοῦν ὅποσονοῦν ἔχῃ, πάντα τὰ γεγονότα καὶ τὰ ἐσόμενα ἔώρακε κατὰ τὸ

¹ vi. 8; viii. 35. *cp.* Epict. i. 17, § 1.

² *cp.* Epict. i. 19, § 11: γέγονε τὸ ζῆν δια τοιεῖν.

³ xii. 36.

BOOK XI

1. THE properties of the Rational Soul are these: it sees itself, dissects itself, moulds itself to its own will,¹ itself reaps its own fruits²—whereas the fruits of the vegetable kingdom and the corresponding produce of animals are reaped by others,—it wins to its own goal wherever the bounds of life be set. In dancing and acting and such-like arts, if any break occurs, the whole action is rendered imperfect; but the rational soul in every part and wheresoever taken³ shews the work set before it fulfilled and all-sufficient for itself, so that it can say: *I have to the full what is my own.*

More than this, it goeth about the whole Universe and the void surrounding it and traces its plan, and stretches forth into the infinitude of Time, and comprehends the cyclical Regeneration⁴ of all things, and takes stock of it, and discerns that our children will see nothing fresh,⁵ just as our fathers too never saw anything more than we.⁶ So that in a manner the man of forty years, if he have a grain of sense, in view of this sameness has seen all that has been

¹ v. 13, 32; x. 7, § 2.

⁵ vi. 37; vii. 1 etc.

⁶ cp. Lucre. ii. 978: *eadem sunt omnia semper*; Florio's Montaigne, i. 19: "If you have lived one day you have seene all."

MARCUS AURELIUS

όμοειδές. ἵδιον δὲ λογικῆς ψυχῆς καὶ τὸ φιλεῖν τοὺς πλησίους καὶ ἀλήθεια καὶ αἰδὼς καὶ τὸ μηδὲν ἔαυτῆς προτιμᾶν, ὅπερ ἵδιον καὶ νόμου. οὕτως ἄρ' οὐδὲν διήνεγκε λόγος ὁρθὸς καὶ λόγος δικαιοσύνης.

β'. Ὄιδῆς ἐπιτερποῦς καὶ ὄρχήσεως καὶ παγκρατίου καταφρονήσεις, ἐὰν τὴν μὲν ἐμμελῆ φωνὴν καταμερίσῃς εἰς ἕκαστον τῶν φθόγγων, καὶ καθ' ἓνα πύθη σεαυτοῦ, “Εἴ τούτου ἥττων εἰ.” διατραπήσῃ γάρ· ἐπὶ δὲ ὄρχήσεως τὸ ἀνάλογον ποιησας καθ' ἑκάστην κίνησιν ἡ σχέσιν τὸ δ' αὐτὸν καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦ παγκρατίου. ὅλως οὖν, χωρὶς ἀρετῆς καὶ τῶν ἀπ' ἀρετῆς, μέμνησο ἐπὶ τὰ κατὰ μέρος τρέχειν καὶ τῇ διαιρέσει αὐτῶν εἰς καταφρόνησιν ιέναι· τὸ δ' αὐτὸν καὶ ἐπὶ τὸν βίον ὅλον μετάφερε.

γ'. Οὐλα ἐστὶν ἡ ψυχὴ ἡ ἔτοιμος, ἐὰν ἥδη ἀπολυθῆναι δέη τοῦ σώματος καὶ ἥτοι σβεσθῆναι ἡ σκεδασθῆναι ἡ συμμεῖναι. τὸ δὲ ἔτοιμον τοῦτο, ἵνα ἀπὸ ἴδικῆς κρίσεως ἔρχηται, μὴ κατὰ ψιλὴν παράταξιν, [ώς οἱ Χριστιανοί,]¹ ἀλλὰ λελογισμένως, καὶ σεμνῶς, καὶ ὥστε καὶ ἄλλον πεῖσαι, ἀτραγφόδως.

δ'. Πεποίηκά τι κοινωνικῶς; οὐκοῦν ὡφέλημαι. τοῦτο ἵνα ἀεὶ πρόχειρον ἀπαντᾶ, καὶ μηδαμοῦ παύουν.

ε'. Τίς σου ἡ τέχνη; “Αγαθὸν εἶναι.” τοῦτο δὲ

¹ ὡς οἱ Χριστιανοί: ungrammatical and pretty certainly a gloss. See p. 381 ff.

¹ St. Mark viii. 36.

² A rather brutal combination of boxing and wrestling.

³ viii. 36.

BOOK XI

and shall be. Again a property of the Rational Soul is the love of our neighbour, and truthfulness, and modesty, and to prize nothing above itself¹—a characteristic also of Law. In this way then the Reason that is right reason and the Reason that is justice are one.

2. Thou wilt think but meanly of charming songs and dances and the pancratium,² if thou analyze the melodious utterance into its several notes and in the case of each ask thyself: *Has this the mastery over me?* For thou wilt recoil from such a confession.³ So too with the dance, if thou do the like for each movement and posture. The same holds good of the pancratium. In fine, virtue and its sphere of action excepted, remember to turn to the component parts,⁴ and by analyzing them come to despise them. Bring the same practice to bear on the whole of life also.

3. What a soul is that which is ready to be released from the body at any requisite moment, and be quenched⁵ or dissipated or hold together! But the readiness must spring from a man's inner judgment, and not be the result of mere opposition [as is the case with the Christians].⁶ It must be associated with deliberation and dignity and, if others too are to be convinced, with nothing like stage-heroics.

4. Have I done some social act? Well, I am amply rewarded.⁷ Keep this truth ever ready to turn to, and in no wise slacken thine efforts.

5. What is thy vocation? *To be a good man.*

⁴ iii. 11. ⁵ v. 33; vii. 32.

⁶ See p. 382.

⁷ vii. 13, 73; ix. 42, § 5; cp. Prov. xi. 17: $\tau\hat{\eta}\psi\chi\hat{\eta}\alpha\hat{\nu}\tau\hat{o}\nu\delta\gamma\alpha\theta\delta\nu\pi\omega\iota\epsilon\dot{\alpha}\eta\eta\delta\lambda\epsilon\eta\mu\omega\nu$.

MARCUS AURELIUS

πῶς καλῶς γίνεται ἡ ἐκ θεωρημάτων, τῶν μὲν περὶ τῆς τοῦ ὅλου φύσεως, τῶν δὲ περὶ τῆς ἴδιας τοῦ ἀνθρώπου κατασκευῆς;

σ'. Πρῶτον αἱ τραγῳδίαι παρήχθησαν ὑπομνηστικὰ τῶν συμβαινόντων καὶ ὅτι ταῦτα οὕτω πέφυκε γίνεσθαι καὶ ὅτι, οἷς ἐπὶ τῆς σκηνῆς ψυχαγωγεῖσθε, τούτοις μὴ ἄχθεσθε ἐπὶ τῆς μείζονος σκηνῆς. ὁρᾶται γάρ, ὅτι οὕτω δεῖ ταῦτα περαίνεσθαι καὶ ὅτι φέρουσιν αὐτὰ καὶ οἱ κεκραγότες, "Ἰὼ Κιθαιρών." καὶ λέγεται δέ τινα ὑπὸ τῶν τὰ δράματα ποιούντων χρησίμως, οἷον ἐστιν ἐκεῖνο μάλιστα.

"Εἰ δ' ἡμελήθην ἐκ θεῶν καὶ παῖδ' ἐμώ,
ἔχει λόγον καὶ τοῦτο."
καὶ πάλιν.

"Τοῖς πράγμασιν γὰρ οὐχὶ θυμοῦσθαι."
καὶ

"Βίον θερίζειν ὥστε κάρπιμον στάχνη."
καὶ ὅσα τοιαῦτα.

- 2 Μετὰ δὲ τὴν τραγῳδίαν ἡ ἀρχαία κωμῳδία παρήχθη, παιδαγωγικὴν παρρησίαν ᔁχουσα, καὶ τῆς ἀτυφίας οὐκ ἀχρήστως δι' αὐτῆς τῆς εὐθυρρημοσύνης ὑπομιμνήσκουσα· πρὸς οἶνον τι καὶ Διογένης ταυτὶ παρελάμβανεν. μετὰ ταύτην¹ <δὲ> ἡ μέση κωμῳδία, καὶ λοιπὸν ἡ νέα πρὸς τί ποτε παρείληπται, ἡ κατ' ὀλύγον ἐπὶ τὴν ἐκ μιμήσεως φιλοτεχνίαν ὑπερρύη, ἐπίστησον. ὅτι μὲν γὰρ

¹ ταύτης Α : ταῦτα τις Ρ : ταύτην Stich. : <δὲ> Schenkl.

¹ Soph. *Oed. Rex* 1391 ; Epict. i. 24, § 16. Perhaps Marcus had in mind the lines of Timocles (Athen. vi. 2) πρὸς ἀλλοτρίῳ τε ψυχαγωγηθεὶς πάθει Μεθ' ἡδονῆς ἀπῆλθε παιδευθεὶς ἄμα.

² Eur. *Aniope* Frag. 207 ; vii. 41.

BOOK XI

But how be successful in this save by assured conceptions on the one hand of the Universal Nature and on the other of the special constitution of man?

6. Originally tragedies were brought on to remind us of real events, and that such things naturally occur, and that on life's greater stage you must not be vexed at things, which on the stage you find so attractive. For it is seen that these things must be gone through, and they too have to endure them, who cry *Ah, Kithaeron!*¹ Aye, and the dramatic writers contain some serviceable sayings. For example this more especially :

*Though both my sons and me the gods have spurned,
For this too there is reason;*²

and again :

*It nought availeth to be wroth with things;*³
and this :

*Our lives are reaped like the ripe ears of corn;*⁴

and how many more like them.

And after Tragedy the old Comedy was put on the stage, exercising an educative freedom of speech, and by its very directness of utterance giving us no unserviceable warning against unbridled arrogance. In somewhat similar vein Diogenes⁵ also took up this rôle. After this, consider for what purpose the Middle Comedy was introduced, and subsequently the New, which little by little degenerated into ingenious mimicry. For that some serviceable

³ Eur. *Beller.* Frag. 289; vii. 38.

⁴ Eur. *Hipp.* Frag. 757; vii. 40.

⁵ Diog. Laert. *Diog.* 7.

MARCUS AURELIUS

λέγεται καὶ ὑπὸ τούτων τινὰ χρήσιμα, οὐκ
ἀγνοεῖται· ἀλλὰ ἡ δλη ἐπιβολὴ τῆς τοιαύτης
ποιήσεως· καὶ δραματουργίας πρὸς τίνα ποτὲ
σκοπὸν ἀπέβλεψεν;

ζ'. Πῶς ἐναργὲς προσπίπτει τὸ μὴ εἶναι
ἄλλην βίου ὑπόθεσιν εἰς τὸ φιλοσοφεῖν οὕτως
ἐπιτήδειον, ὡς ταύτην, ἐν ἥ νῦν ὧν τυγχάνεις.

η'. Κλάδος τοῦ προσεχοῦς κλάδου ἀποκοπεὶς
οὐ δύναται μὴ καὶ τοῦ δλού φυτοῦ ἀποκεκόφθαι.
οὗτω δὴ καὶ ἄνθρωπος ἐνὸς ἀνθρώπου ἀποσχισθ-
εὶς δλης τῆς κοινωνίας ἀποπέπτωκεν. κλάδον
μὲν οὖν ἄλλος ἀποκόπτει· ἄνθρωπος δὲ αὐτὸς
έαυτὸν τοῦ πλησίου χωρίζει μισήσας καὶ
ἀποστραφείς· ἀγνοεῖ δέ, ὅτι καὶ τοῦ δλού
πολιτεύματος ἀμα ἀποτέμηκεν έαυτόν. πλὴν
ἔκεινό γε δῶρον τοῦ συστησαμένου τὴν κοινωνίαν
Δίος· ἔξεστι γὰρ πάλιν ἡμῖν συμφῦναι τῷ
προσεχεῖ καὶ πάλιν τοῦ δλού συμπληρωτικοῖς
γενέσθαι. πλεονάκις μέντοι γινόμενον τὸ κατὰ
τὴν τοιαύτην διαίρεσιν δυσένωτον καὶ δυσαπο-
κατάστατον <τὸ> ἀποχωροῦν ποιεῖ. δλως τε
οὐχ ὅμοιος ὁ κλάδος ὁ ἀπ' ἀρχῆς συμβλαστήσας
καὶ σύμπνους συμμείνας τῷ μετὰ τὴν ἀποκοπὴν
αὐθις ἐγκεντρισθέντι, ὃ τί ποτε λέγουσιν οἱ
φυτουργοί. ὅμοθαμνεῖν μέν, μὴ ὅμοδογμα-
τεῖν δέ.

θ'. Οἱ ἐνιστάμενοι προιόντι σοι κατὰ τὸν
ὅρθὸν λόγον, ὥσπερ ἀπὸ τῆς ὑγιοῦς πράξεως

¹ Lucian, *de Salt.* 35, says of the Art of Dancing (Pantomime) that it requires the acme of culture and even of philosophy!

² *cp.* Lucan i. 493: “exeat aula qui vult esse pius”;

BOOK XI

things are said even by the writers of these is recognized by all. But what end in view had this whole enterprize of such poetical and dramatic composition? ¹

7. How clearly is it borne in on thee that there is no other state of life so fitted to call for the exercise of Philosophy as this in which thou now findest thyself.²

8. A branch cut off from its neighbour branch³ cannot but be cut off from the whole plant. In the very same way a man severed from one man has fallen away from the fellowship of all men. Now a branch is cut off by others, but a man separates himself⁴ from his neighbour by his own agency in hating him or turning his back upon him; and is unaware that he has thereby sundered himself from the whole civic community.⁵ But mark the gift of Zeus who established the law of fellowship. For it is in our power to grow again to the neighbour branch, and again become perfective of the whole. But such a schism constantly repeated makes it difficult for the seceding part to unite again and resume its former condition. And in general the branch that from the first has shared in the growth of the tree and lived with its life is not like that which has been cut off and afterwards grafted on to it, as the gardeners are apt to tell you. Be of one bush, but not of one mind.

9. As those who withstand thy progress along the path of right reason will never be able to turn thee

Montaigne iii. 9 (Florio's version): "Plato saith that who escapes untainted and clean-handed from the managing of the world escapeth by some wonder." See also *above* viii. 1.

³ St. Paul, Rom. xi. 19. ⁴ iv. 29; viii. 34. ⁵ ix. 23.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἀποτρέψαι σε οὐ δυνήσονται, οὔτως μηδὲ τῆς πρὸς αὐτοὺς εὔμενείας ἐκκρουσέτωσαν ἀλλὰ φύλασσε σεαυτὸν ἐπ' ἀμφοτέρων ὁμοίως, μὴ μόνον ἐπὶ τῆς εὐσταθοῦς κρίσεως καὶ πράξεως, ἀλλὰ καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς πρὸς τοὺς κωλύειν ἐπιχειροῦντας ἡ ἄλλως δυσχεραίνοντας πραότητος. καὶ γὰρ τοῦτο ἀσθενές, τὸ χαλεπαίνειν αὐτοῖς, ὥσπερ τὸ ἀποστῆναι τῆς πράξεως καὶ ἐνδοῦναι καταπλαγέντα· ἀμφότεροι γὰρ ἐπίσης λειποτάκται, ὃ μὲν ὑποτρέσας, ὃ δὲ ἀλλοτριώθεις πρὸς τὸν φύσει συγγενῆ καὶ φίλον.

ι'. “Οὐκ ἔστι χείρων οὐδεμία φύσις τέχνης.”¹ καὶ γὰρ αἱ τέχναι τὰς φύσεις μιμοῦνται. εἰ δὲ τοῦτο, ἡ πασῶν τῶν ἄλλων τελεωτάτη καὶ περιληπτικωτάτη φύσις οὐκ ἀν ἀπολείποιτο τῆς τεχνικῆς εὔμηχανίας. πᾶσαι δέ γε τέχναι τῶν κρειττόνων ἔνεκεν τὰ χείρω ποιοῦσιν οὐκοῦν καὶ ἡ κοινὴ φύσις. καὶ δὴ ἔνθεν μὲν γένεσις δικαιοσύνης, ἀπὸ δὲ ταύτης αἱ λοιπαὶ ἀρεταὶ ὑφίστανται· οὐ γὰρ τηρηθήσεται τὸ δίκαιον, ἐὰν ἡτοι διαφερώμεθα πρὸς τὰ μέσα ἡ εὐεξαπάτητοι καὶ προπτωτικοὶ καὶ μεταπτωτικοὶ ὡμεν.

ια'. † Εἰ μὲν οὖν² <μὴ> ἔρχεται † ἐπὶ σὲ τὰ πράγματα, δν αἱ διώξεις καὶ φυγαὶ θορυβοῦσί σε, ἀλλὰ τρόπον τινὰ αὐτὸς ἐπ' ἐκεῖνα ἔρχῃ, τὸ γοῦν κρίμα τὸ περὶ αὐτῶν ἡσυχαζέτω κάκεῖνα μενεῖ ἀτρεμοῦντα καὶ οὔτε διώκων οὔτε φεύγων ὀφθήσῃ.

¹ Apparently a quotation from some unknown poet.

² οὐκ PA : [εὶ μὲν] Οὐκ Leopold.

BOOK XI

aside from sound action, so let them not wrest thee from a kindly attitude towards them¹; but keep a watch over thyself in both directions alike, not only in steadfastness² of judgment and action but also in gentleness towards those who endeavour to stand in thy path or be in some other way a thorn in thy side. For in fact it is a sign of weakness to be wroth with them, no less than to shrink from action and be terrified into surrender. For they that do the one or the other are alike deserters of their post,³ the one as a coward, the other as estranged from a natural kinsman and friend.

10. '*Nature in no case cometh short of art.*' For indeed the arts are copiers of various natures. If this be so, the most consummate and comprehensive Nature of all cannot be outdone by the inventive skill of art. And in every art the lower things are done for the sake of the higher⁴; and this must hold good of the Universal Nature also. Aye and thence is the origin of Justice, and in justice all the other virtues have their root,⁵ since justice will not be maintained if we either put a value on things indifferent, or are easily duped and prone to slip and prone to change.

11. If therefore the things, the following after and eschewing of which disturb thee, come not to thee, but thou in a manner dost thyself seek them out, at all events keep thy judgment at rest about them and they will remain quiescent, and thou shalt not be seen following after or eschewing them.

¹ x. 36, § 2 etc.

² v. 18.

³ x. 25.

⁴ v. 16, 30; vii. 55.

⁵ iv. 37; v. 34. *cp.* Theognis, 147: *ἐν δὲ δικαιοσύνῃ συλληθεδην πᾶσ' ἀπειθήστων.*

MARCUS AURELIUS

ιβ'. Σφαιρα ψυχῆς αὐτοειδής,¹ ὅταν μήτε ἔκτείνηται ἐπί τι μήτε ἔσω συντρέχῃ, μήτε σπείρηται †² μήτε συνιζάνῃ, ἀλλὰ φωτὶ λάμπηται, ὡς τὴν ἀληθειαν ὄρᾳ τὴν πάντων καὶ τὴν ἐν αὐτῇ.

ιγ'. Καταφρονήσει μού τις; ὅψεται ἐγὼ δὲ ὅψομαι, ἵνα μή τι καταφρονήσεως ἄξιον πράσσων ἦ λέγων εὐρίσκωμαι. μισήσει; ὅψεται ἀλλὰ ἐγὼ εὐμενῆς καὶ εὔνους παντί, καὶ τούτῳ αὐτῷ ἔτοιμος τὸ παρορώμενον δεῖξαι, οὐκ ὀνειδιστικῶς οὐδὲ ὡς κατεπιδεικνύμενος, ὅτι ἀνέχομαι, ἀλλὰ γνησίως καὶ χρηστῶς, οἷος ὁ Φωκιῶν ἐκεῖνος, εἰ γε μὴ προσεποιεῖτο. τὰ ἔσω γάρ δεῖ τοιαῦτα εἶναι, καὶ ὑπὸ τῶν θεῶν βλέπεσθαι ἄνθρωπον πρὸς μηδὲν ἀγανακτικῶς διατιθέμενον μηδὲ δεινοπαθοῦντα. τί γάρ σοι κακόν, εἰ αὐτὸς νῦν ποιεῖς τὸ τῇ φύσει σου οἰκεῖον καὶ δέχῃ τὸ νῦν τῇ τῶν ὅλων φύσει εὔκαιρον, ἄνθρωπος τεταμένος πρὸς τὸ γίνεσθαι δι' ὅτου δὴ τὸ κοινῆ συμφέρον;

ιδ'. Ἀλλήλων καταφρονοῦντες ἀλλήλοις ἀρεσκεύονται καὶ ἀλλήλων ὑπερέχειν θέλοντες ἀλλήλοις ὑποκατακλίνονται.

ιε'. ‘Ως σαπρὸς καὶ κίβδηλος ὁ λέγων, “Ἐγὼ προήρημαι ἀπλῶς σοι προσφέρεσθαι.” τί ποιεῖς, ἄνθρωπε; τοῦτο οὐ δεῖ προλέγειν. αὐτοῦ φανήσεται ἐπὶ τοῦ μετώπου γεγράφθαι ὄφείλει, εὐθὺς

¹ αὐτοτελῆς Reiske.

² ἐπαίρηται Schenkl.

¹ viii. 41 ; xii. 3. ² viii. 51.

³ v. 25 ; Epict. iii. 18, § 9 ; x. 32. ⁴ xi. 18, § 9.

⁵ Marcus is probably thinking of Phocion's last words, see Aelian xii. 49 μηδὲν Ἀθηναῖοι μνησικακῆσειν ὑπὲρ τῆς παρ' αὐτῶν φιλοτησίας ἡς νῦν πίνω (sc. the cup of hemlock); but

BOOK XI

12. The soul is ‘a sphere truly shaped,’¹ when it neither projects itself towards anything outside nor shrinks together inwardly, neither expands nor contracts,² but irradiates a light whereby it sees the reality of all things and the reality that is in itself.

13. What if a man think scorn of me? That will be his affair. But it will be mine not to be found doing or saying anything worthy of scorn. But what if he hate me? That will be his affair.³ But I will be kindly and goodnatured to everyone, and ready to shew even my enemy where he has seen amiss, not by way of rebuke⁴ nor with a parade of forbearance, but genuinely and chivalrously like the famous Phocion,⁵ unless indeed he was speaking ironically. For such should be the inner springs of a man’s heart⁶ that the Gods see him not wrathfully disposed at any thing or counting it a hardship. What evil can happen to thee if thou thyself now doest what is congenial to thy nature, and welcomest what the Universal Nature now deems well-timed, thou who art a man intensely eager that what is for the common interest should by one means or another be brought about?

14. Thinking scorn of one another, they yet fawn on one another, and eager to outdo their rivals they grovel one to another.

15. How rotten at the core is he, how counterfeit, who proclaims aloud: *I have elected to deal straightforwardly with thee!* Man, what art thou at? There is no need to give this out. The fact will instantly declare itself. It ought to be written on the fore-

Heylbüt (*Rhein. Mus.* 39. p. 310) refers to a story in Musonius Rufus, p. 55, Hense.

¹ cp. St. Luke xi. 39: τὸ ξεωθεν ὑμῶν—“the inward parts.”

MARCUS AURELIUS

η φωνὴ τοιοῦτον ἡχεῖ,¹ εὐθὺς ἐν τοῖς ὅμμασιν ἔξέχει, ώς τῶν ἑραστῶν ἐν τῷ βλέμματι πάντα εὐθὺς γυνωρίζει ὁ ἐρώμενος. τοιοῦτον ὅλως δεῖ τὸν ἀπλοῦν καὶ ἀγαθὸν εἶναι, οἷον γράσωνα, ἵνα ὁ παραστὰς ἄμα τῷ προσελθεῖν, θέλει οὐ θέλει, αἴσθηται. ἐπιτήδευσις δὲ ἀπλότητος σκάλμη² ἔστιν. οὐδέν ἐστιν αἴσχιον λυκοφιλίας· πάντων μάλιστα τοῦτο φεῦγε. ὁ ἀγαθὸς καὶ ἀπλοῦς καὶ εὔμενὴς ἐν τοῖς ὅμμασιν ἔχουσι ταῦτα καὶ οὐ λανθάνει.

ιε'. Κάλλιστα διαζῆν, δύναμις αὗτη ἐν τῇ ψυχῇ, ἐὰν πρὸς τὰ ἀδιάφορά τις ἀδιαφορῆ. ἀδιαφορήσει δέ, ἐὰν ἔκαστον αὐτῶν θεωρῇ διηρημένως καὶ ὀλικῶς καὶ μεμιημένος, ὅτι οὐδὲν αὐτῶν ὑπόληψιν περὶ αὐτοῦ ἡμῖν ἐμποιεῖ οὐδὲ ἔρχεται ἐφ' ἡμᾶς· ἀλλὰ τὰ μὲν ἀτρεμεῖ, ἡμεῖς δέ ἔσμεν οἱ τὰς περὶ αὐτῶν κρίσεις γεννῶντες καὶ οἷον γράφοντες ἐν ἑαυτοῖς, ἔξον μὲν μὴ γράφειν, ἔξον δέ, καν που λάθη, εὐθὺς ἔξαλεῖψαι· ὅτι ὀλίγου χρόνου ἔσται ἡ τοιαύτη προσοχὴ καὶ λοιπὸν πεπαύσεται ὁ βίος. τί μέντοι δύσκολον ἄλλως³ ἔχειν ταῦτα; εἰ μὲν γὰρ κατὰ φύσιν ἔστι, χαῖρε αὐτοῖς καὶ ράδια ἔστω σοι· εἰ δὲ παρὰ φύσιν, ζήτει, τί ἔστι σοὶ κατὰ τὴν σὴν φύσιν, καὶ ἐπὶ τοῦτο σπεῦδε, καν ἄδοξον ἥ· παντὶ γὰρ συγγνώμη, τὸ ἴδιον ἀγαθὸν ζητοῦντι.

¹ ἡχεῖ PA : ἡχεῖ Reiske. ² σκαμβῆ (a bent stick that can never be made straight) Salm. ³ καλῶς P.

¹ The word is Thracian for a native sword (Pollux x. 38), as we might say a kukri. Here any concealed weapon to stab the unsuspecting.

BOOK XI

head. There is a ring in the voice that betrays it at once, it flashes out at once from the eyes, just as the loved one can read at a glance every secret in his lover's looks. The simple and good man should in fact be like a man who has a strong smell about him, so that, as soon as ever he comes near, his neighbour is, will-he nill-he, aware of it. A calculated simplicity is a stiletto.¹ There is nothing more hateful than the friendship of the wolf for the lamb. Eschew that above all things. The good man, the kindly, the genuine, betrays these characteristics in his eyes and there is no hiding it.²

16. Vested in the soul is the power of living ever the noblest of lives, let a man but be indifferent towards things indifferent. And he will be indifferent, if he examine every one of these things both in its component parts³ and as a whole, and bear in mind that none of them is the cause in us of any opinion about itself, nor obtrudes itself on us. *They* remain quiescent,⁴ and it is we who father these judgments about them and as it were inscribe them on our minds, though it lies with us not to inscribe them and, if they chance to steal in undetected, to erase them at once.⁵ Bear in mind too that we shall have but a little while to attend to such things and presently life will be at an end. But why complain of the perversity of things? If they are as Nature wills, delight in them and let them be no hardship to thee. If they contravene Nature, seek then what is in accord with thy nature and speed towards that, even though it be unpopular.⁶ For it is pardonable for every man to seek his own good.

² cp. Ecclesiasticus xix. 29 : "A man shall be known by his look."

³ iii. 11; xii. 18. ⁴ xi. 11. ⁵ viii. 47. ⁶ v. 3; vi. 2.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ιξ. Πόθεν ἐλήλυθεν ἕκαστον, καὶ ἐκ τίνων
ἕκαστον ὑποκειμένων, καὶ εἰς τί μεταβάλλει,
καὶ οἷον ἔσται μεταβαλόν, καὶ ως οὐδὲν κακὸν
πείσεται.

ιη'. Καὶ¹ πρῶτον, τίς ἡ πρὸς ἀνθρώπους μοι
σχέσις· καὶ ὅτι ἀλλήλων ἔνεκεν γεγόναμεν· καὶ
καθ' ἔτερον λόγου προστησόμενος αὐτῶν γέγονα,
ώς κριὸς ποίμνης ἡ ταῦρος ἀγέλης. ἄνωθεν δὲ
ἔπιθι ἀπὸ τοῦ, εἰ μὴ ἄτομοι, φύσις ἡ τὰ δλα
διοικοῦσα· εἰ τοῦτο, τὰ χείρονα τῶν κρειττόνων
ἔνεκεν, ταῦτα δὲ ἀλλήλων.

2 Δεύτερον δέ, ὁποῖοι τινές εἰσιν ἐπὶ τῆς
τραπέζης, ἐν τῷ κλιναρίῳ, τἄλλα· μάλιστα δέ, οἵας
ἀνάγκας δογμάτων κειμένας ἔχουσιν, καὶ αὐτὰ δὲ
ταῦτα μεθ' οἶου τύφου ποιοῦσιν.

3 Τρίτον, ὅτι, εἰ μὲν ὄρθως ταῦτα ποιοῦσιν, οὐ
δεῖ δυσχεραίνειν· εἰ δ' οὐκ ὄρθως, δηλούντι
ἀκούτες καὶ ἀγνοοῦντες. πᾶσα γὰρ ψυχὴ ἀκουσα
στέρεται, ὥσπερ τοῦ ἀληθοῦς, οὕτως καὶ τοῦ
κατ' ἀξίαν ἐκάστῳ προσφέρεσθαι. ἀχθούνται
γοῦν ἀκούοντες ἄδικοι καὶ ἀγνώμονες καὶ πλεον-
έκται καὶ καθάπαξ ἀμαρτητικὸν περὶ τοὺς
πλησίουν.

4 Τέταρτον, ὅτι καὶ αὐτὸς πολλὰ ἀμαρτάνεις, καὶ
ἄλλος τοιοῦτος εἰ· καὶ εἴ τινων δὲ ἀμαρτημάτων
ἀπέχῃ, ἄλλὰ τήν γε ἔξιν ποιητικὴν² ἔχεις, εἰ
καὶ διὰ δειλίαν ἡ δοξοκοπίαν ἡ τοιοῦτό τι κακὸν
ἀπέχῃ τῶν ὄμοίων ἀμαρτημάτων.

¹ καὶ PA = κ(εφαλαι)α' Rend., but cp. vii. 51. ² ἐποιητικὴν Α.

¹ iii. 11. ² v. 16, 30; viii. 27. ³ viii. 56, 59.

⁴ Dio Chrys. Orat. ii. de Regno, 97 R, δ δὲ ταῦρος σαφῶς
πρὸς βασιλέως εἰκόνα πεποίηται. Epict. i. 2, § 30.

BOOK XI

17. Think whence each thing has come, of what it is built up,¹ into what it changes, what it will be when changed, and that it cannot take any harm.

18. *Firstly* : Consider thy relation² to mankind and that we came into the world for the sake of one another³; and taking another point of view, that I have come into it to be set over men, as a ram over a flock or a bull over a herd.⁴ Start at the beginning from this premiss : If not atoms,⁵ then an all-controlling Nature. If the latter, then the lower are for the sake of the higher and the higher for one another.⁶

Secondly : What sort of men they are at board and in bed and elsewhere.⁷ Above all how they are the self-made slaves of their principles, and how they pride themselves on the very acts in question.

Thirdly : That if they are acting rightly in this, there is no call for us to be angry. If not rightly, it is obviously against their will and through ignorance.⁸ For it is against his will that every soul is deprived, as of truth, so too of the power of dealing with each man as is his due. At any rate, such men resent being called unjust, unfeeling, avaricious, and in a word doers of wrong to their neighbours.

Fourthly : That thou too doest many a wrong thing thyself and art much as others are,⁹ and if thou dost refrain from certain wrong-doings, yet hast thou a disposition inclinable thereto¹⁰ even supposing that through cowardice or a regard for thy good name or some such base consideration thou dost not actually commit them.

⁵ iv. 3, § 2 ; viii. 17 ; ix. 39 ; x. 6.

⁶ ii. 1 ; v. 16. ⁷ viii. 14 ; x. 19.

⁸ ii. 1 ; iv. 3 ; vii. 22, 63.

⁹ vii. 70 ; x. 30. ¹⁰ i. 17 *ad init.*

MARCUS AURELIUS

- 5 Πέμπτον, ὅτι οὐδέ, εἰς ἀμαρτάνουσι, κατείληφας· πολλὰ γὰρ καὶ κατ' οἰκονομίαν γίνεται. καὶ ὅλως πολλὰ δεῖ πρότερον μαθεῖν, ἵνα τις περὶ ἀλλοτρίας πράξεως καταληπτικῶς τι ἀποφήνηται.
- 6 "Εκτον, ὅτι, ὅταν λίαν ἀγανακτῆς ἡ καὶ δυσπαθῆς, ἀκαριαῖος ὁ ἀνθρώπειος βίος καὶ μετ' ὀλίγον πάντες ἔξετάθημεν.
- 7 "Εβδομον, ὅτι οὐχ αἱ πράξεις αὐτῶν ἐνοχλοῦσιν ἡμῖν· ἐκεῖναι γάρ εἰσιν ἐν τοῖς ἐκείνων ἡγεμονικοῖς· ἀλλὰ αἱ ἡμέτεραι ὑπολήψεις. ἀρον γοῦν καὶ θέλησον ἀφεῖναι τὴν ὡς περὶ δεινοῦ κρίσιν, καὶ ἀπῆλθεν ἡ ὀργὴ. πῶς οὖν ἀρεῖς; λογισάμενος, ὅτι οὐκ αἰσχρόν¹ ἐὰν γὰρ μὴ μόνον ἡ τὸ αἰσχρὸν κακόν, ἀνάγκη καὶ σὲ πολλὰ ἀμαρτάνειν καὶ ληστὴν καὶ παντοῖον γενέσθαι.
- 8 "Ογδοον, ὅσῳ χαλεπώτερα ἐπιφέρουσιν αἱ ὄργαι καὶ λῦπαι αἱ ἐπὶ τοῖς τοιούτοις, ἥπερ αὐτά ἔστιν, ἐφ' οὓς ὀργιζόμεθα καὶ λυπούμεθα.
- 9 "Ἐννατον, ὅτι τὸ εὐμενὲς ἀνίκητον, ἐὰν γνήσιον ἡ καὶ μὴ σεσηρὸς μηδὲ ὑπόκρισις. τί γάρ σοι ποιήσει ὁ ὑβριστικώτατος, ἐὰν διατελῆς εὐμενῆς αὐτῷ καί, εἰς οὕτως ἔτυχε, πράως παραινῆς καὶ μεταδιδάσκης εὐσχολῶν παρ'² αὐτὸν ἐκεῖνον τὸν καιρόν, ὅτε κακὰ ποιεῖν σε ἐπειχειρεῖ· "Μή, τέκνον· πρὸς ἄλλο πεφύκαμεν. ἐγὼ μὲν οὐ μὴ

¹ Or, "*with an eye to circumstances,*" "*with some further end in view,*" knowledge of which would justify the action or shew its necessity.

² ix. 38. ³ vii. 16 ; viii. 40 ; ix. 13 ; xi. 11, 16.
⁴ vii. 16. ⁵ x. 10.

BOOK XI

Fifthly : That thou hast not even proved that they are doing wrong, for many things are done even 'by way of policy.'¹ Speaking generally a man must know many things before he can pronounce an adequate opinion on the acts of another.

Sixthly : When thou art above measure angry or even out of patience, bethink thee that man's life is momentary, and in a little while we shall all have been laid out.²

Seventhly : That in reality it is not the acts men do that vex us—for they belong to the domain of their ruling Reason—but the opinions we form of those acts.³ Eradicate these, be ready to discard thy conclusion that the act in question is a calamity, and thine anger is at an end.⁴ How then eradicate these opinions? By realizing that no act of another debases us. For unless that alone which debases is an evil, thou too must perforce do many a wrong thing and become a brigand⁵ or any sort of man.

Eighthly : Bethink thee how much more grievous are the consequences of our anger and vexation at such actions than are the acts themselves which arouse that anger and vexation.

Ninthly : That kindness is irresistible,⁶ be it but sincere and no mock smile or a mask assumed. For what can the most unconscionable of men do to thee, if thou persist in being kindly to him, and when a chance is given exhort him mildly and, at the very time when he is trying to do thee harm, quietly teach him a better way⁷ thus : *Nay, my child, we have been made for other things. I shall be in*

⁶ Sen. *de Ben.* vii. 31 : *vincit malos pertinax bonitas.*

⁷ v. 28 ; vi. 27 ; viii. 59 ; x. 4 ; xi. 13.

MARCUS AURELIUS

βλαβῶ, σὺ δὲ βλάπτη, τέκνον.” καὶ δεικνύναι εὐαφῶς καὶ ὄλικῶς, ὅτι τοῦτο οὕτως ἔχει, ὅτι οὐδὲ μέλισσαι αὐτὸς ποιοῦσιν οὐδ’ ὅσα συναγελαστικὰ πέφυκεν. δεῖ δὲ μήτε εἰρωνικῶς αὐτὸς ποιεῖν μήτε ὀνειδιστικῶς, ἀλλὰ φιλοστόργως καὶ ἀδήκτως τῇ ψυχῇ· καὶ μὴ ὡς ἐν σχολῇ, μηδὲ ἵνα ἄλλος παραστάς θαυμάσῃ· ἀλλ’ ἦτοι¹ πρὸς μόνον, καὶ ἐὰν ἄλλοι τινὲς περιεστήκωσιν.

10 Τούτων τῶν ἐννέα κεφαλαίων μέμνησο, ὡς παρὰ τῶν Μουσῶν δῶρα εἰληφώς· καὶ ἄρξαι ποτὲ ἀνθρωπος εἶναι, ἕως ζῆς. φυλακτέον δὲ ἐπίσης τῷ ὄργιζεσθαι αὐτοῖς τὸ κολακεύειν αὐτούς· ἀμφότερα γὰρ ἀκοινώνητα καὶ πρὸς βλάβην φέρει. πρόχειρον δὲ ἐν ταῖς ὄργαις, ὅτι οὐχὶ τὸ θυμοῦσθαι ἀνδρικόν, ἀλλὰ τὸ πρᾶον καὶ ἥμερον, ὥσπερ ἀνθρωπικώτερον, οὕτως καὶ ἀρρενικώτερον, καὶ ἴσχυος καὶ νεύρων καὶ ἀνδρείας τούτῳ μέτεστιν, οὐχὶ τῷ ἀγανακτοῦντι καὶ δυσαρεστοῦντι. ὅσῳ γὰρ ἀπαθείᾳ τοῦτο οἰκεότερον, τοσούτῳ καὶ δυνάμει. ὥσπερ τε ἡ λύπη ἀσθενοῦς, οὕτως καὶ ἡ ὄργη. ἀμφότεροι γὰρ τέτρωνται καὶ ἐνδεδώκασιν.

11 Εἰ δὲ βούλει, καὶ δέκατον παρὰ τοῦ Μουσηγέτου δῶρον λάβε, ὅτι τὸ μὴ ἀξιοῦν ἀμαρτάνειν τοὺς φαύλους μανικόν· ἀδυνάτου γὰρ ἐφίεται. τὸ δὲ συγχωρεῖν ἄλλοις μὲν εἶναι τοιούτους, ἀξιοῦν δέ, μὴ εἰς σὲ ἀμαρτάνειν, ἀγνωμον καὶ τυραννικόν.

¹ ἦ τοι Fournier.

¹ ix. 4.

² cp. Dio 71. 3, § 4.

² xi. 13.

⁴ iv. 31.

BOOK XI

no wise harmed, but thou art harming thyself,¹ my child. Shew him delicately and without any personal reference that this is so, and that even honey-bees do not act thus nor any creatures of gregarious instincts. But thou must do this not in irony² or by way of rebuke, but with kindly affection and without any bitterness at heart, not as from a master's chair, nor yet to impress the bystanders, but as if he were indeed alone even though others are present.

Bethink thee then of these nine heads, taking them as a gift from the Muses, and begin at last to be a *man* while life is thine. But beware of flattering³ men no less than being angry with them.⁴ For both these are non-social and conducive of harm. In temptations to anger a precept ready to thy hand is this: to be wroth is not manly, but a mild and gentle disposition, as it is more human, so it is more masculine. Such a man, and not he who gives way to anger and discontent, is endowed with strength and sinews and manly courage. For the nearer such a mind attains to a passive calm,⁵ the nearer is the man to strength. As grief is a weakness, so also is anger. In both it is a case of a wound and a surrender.

But take if thou wilt as a tenth gift from Apollo, the Leader of the Muses, this, that to expect the bad not to do wrong is worthy of a madman; for that is to wish for impossibilities.⁶ But to acquiesce in their wronging others, while expecting them to refrain from wronging thee, is unfeeling and despotic.⁷

¹ The Stoic *ἀπάθεια*.

⁶ v. 17; vii. 71; ix. 42.

² vi. 27; Sen. *de Ira* ii. 31. *ἄγνωμον* might also be translated *senseless*.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ιθ'. Τέσσαρας μάλιστα τροπὰς τοῦ ἡγεμονικοῦ παραφυλακτέον διηνεκῶς καὶ, ἐπειδὴν φωράσ-
γες, ἀπαλειπτέον ἐπιλέγοντα ἐφ' ἐκάστου οὕτως·
“Τοῦτο τὸ φάντασμα οὐκ ἀναγκαῖον· τοῦτο
λυτικὸν κοινωνίας· τοῦτο οὐκ ἀπὸ σαυτοῦ μέλλεις
λέγειν.” τὸ γὰρ μὴ ἀφ' ἑαυτοῦ λέγειν ἐν τοῖς
ἀτοπωτάτοις νομίζε. τέταρτον δέ ἐστι, καθ' ὁ
σεαυτῷ ὀνειδιεῖς, ὅτι τοῦτο ἡττωμένου ἐστὶ καὶ
ὑποκατακλινομένου τοῦ ἐν σοὶ θειοτέρου μέρους τῇ
ἀτιμοτέρᾳ καὶ θυητῇ μοίρᾳ τῇ τοῦ σώματος, καὶ
ταῖς τούτου παχείαις ἴδεαις.¹

κ'. Τὸ μὲν πνευμάτιον² σου καὶ τὸ πυρῶδες
πᾶν, ὃσον ἐγκέκραται, καίτοι φύσει ἀνωφερῆ
ὄντα, ὅμως πειθόμενα τῇ τῶν ὅλων διατάξει,
παρακρατεῖται ἐνταῦθα ἐπὶ τοῦ συγκρίματος.
καὶ τὸ γεῶδες δὲ τὸ ἐν σοὶ πᾶν καὶ τὸ ὑγρόν,
καίτοι κατωφερῆ ὄντα, ὅμως ἐγήγερται καὶ
ἔστηκε τὴν οὐχ ἑαυτῶν φυσικὴν στάσιν. οὕτως
ἄρα καὶ τὰ στοιχεῖα ὑπακούει τοῦς ὅλοις,
ἐπειδάν που καταταχθῆ, σὺν βίᾳ μένοντα, μέχρις
ἄν ἐκεῖθεν πάλιν τὸ ἐνδόσιμον τῆς διαλύσεως
σημήνῃ.

2 Οὐ δεινὸν οὖν μόνον τὸ νοερόν σου μέρος
ἀπειθὲς εἶναι καὶ ἀγανακτεῖν τῇ ἑαυτοῦ χώρᾳ;
καίτοι οὐδέν γε βίαιον τούτῳ ἐπιτάσσεται, ἀλλὰ
μόνα ὅσα κατὰ φύσιν ἐστὶν αὐτῷ· οὐ μέντοι
ἀνέχεται, ἀλλὰ τὴν ἐναντίαν φέρεται. ἡ γὰρ ἐπὶ³
τὰ ἀδικήματα καὶ τὰ ἀκολαστήματα καὶ τὰς
ὅργας καὶ τὰς λύπας καὶ τοὺς φόβους κίνησις
οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἐστὶν ἡ ἀφισταμένου τῆς φύσεως.

¹ ἥδοναῖς P. ² Perhaps πνευματικόν, cpr. iv. 4, see Index iii.

BOOK XI

19. Against four perversions of the ruling Reason thou shouldest above all keep unceasing watch, and, once detected, wholly abjure them,¹ saying in each case to thyself: *This thought is not necessary;² this is destructive of human fellowship; this could be no genuine utterance from the heart.*—And not to speak from the heart, what is it but a contradiction in terms?—The fourth case is that of self-reproach,³ for that is an admission that the divine part of thee has been worsted by and acknowledges its inferiority to the body, the baser and mortal partner, and to its gross notions.

20. Thy soul and all the fiery part that is blended with thee, though by Nature ascensive, yet in submission to the system of the Universe are held fast here in thy compound personality. And the entire earthy part too in thee and the humid, although naturally descensive, are yet upraised and take up a station not their natural one. Thus indeed we find the elements also in subjection to the Whole and, when set anywhere, remaining there under constraint until the signal sound for their release again therefrom.

Is it not then a paradox that the intelligent part alone of thee should be rebellious and quarrel with its station? Yet is no constraint laid upon it but only so much as is in accordance with its nature. Howbeit it does not comply and takes a contrary course. For every motion towards acts of injustice and licentiousness, towards anger and grief and fear, but betokens one who cuts himself adrift from Nature. Aye

¹ xi. 16. ² iv. 24.

³ v. 36; viii. 10. *cp.* Fronto, *ad Cues.* iv. 13, where Marcus reproaches himself when 19 years old for backwardness in philosophy.

MARCUS AURELIUS

καὶ ὅταν δέ τινι τῶν συμβαινόντων δυσχεραίνῃ τὸ ἱγεμονικόν, καταλείπει καὶ τότε τὴν ἑαυτοῦ χώραν. πρὸς ὁσιότητα¹ γὰρ καὶ θεοσέβειαν κατεσκεύασται οὐχ ἡττον ἢ πρὸς δικαιοσύνην. καὶ γὰρ ταῦτα ἐν εἴδει ἔστι τῆς εὐκοινωνησίας, μᾶλλον δὲ πρεσβύτερα τῶν δικαιοπραγμάτων.

κα'. Ωἱ μὴ εἰς καὶ ὁ αὐτός ἔστιν ἀεὶ τοῦ βίου σκοπός, οὗτος εἰς καὶ ὁ αὐτὸς δι' ὅλου τοῦ βίου εἶναι οὐ δύναται. οὐκ ἀρκεῖ <δὲ> τὸ εἰρημένον, ἐὰν μὴ κάκεῖνο προσθῆς, ὅποιον εἶναι δεῖ τοῦτον τὸν σκοπόν. ὥσπερ γὰρ οὐχ ἡ πάντων τῶν ὄπωσοῦν <τοῖς> πλείοσι δοκούντων ἀγαθῶν ὑπόληψις ὁμοίᾳ ἔστιν, ἀλλ' ἡ τῶν τοιῶνδε τινῶν, τουτέστι τῶν κοινῶν, οὕτω καὶ τὸν σκοπὸν δεῖ τὸν κοινωνικὸν καὶ πολιτικὸν ὑποστήσασθαι. ὁ γὰρ εἰς τοῦτον πάσας τὰς ἴδιας ὄρμας ἀπευθύνων πάσας τὰς πράξεις ὁμοίας ἀποδώσει καὶ κατὰ τοῦτο ἀεὶ ὁ αὐτὸς ἔσται.

κβ'. Τὸν μὲν τὸν ὄρεινὸν καὶ τὸν κατοικίδιον² καὶ τὴν πτοίαν τούτου καὶ διασόβησιν.

κγ'. Σωκράτης καὶ τὰ τῶν πολλῶν δόγματα 'Λαμίας' ἐκάλει, παιδίων δείματα.

κδ'. Λακεδαιμόνιοι τοῖς μὲν ξένοις ἐν ταῖς θεωρίαις ὑπὸ τῇ σκιᾷ τὰ βάθρα ἐτίθεσαν, αὐτοὶ δέ, οὐ ἔτυχον, ἐκαθέζοντο.

¹ ἰσότητα PA: em. Cas.

² ὄρεινὸν and κατοικίδιον require transposing to give τούτου its correct meaning.

¹ xi. 9.

² xii. 2. δσιότης = δικαιοσύνη πρὸς θεούς, see Stob. Ecl. ii. 104. ³ But cp. xi. 10.

BOOK XI

and when the ruling Reason in a man is vexed at anything that befalls, at that very moment it deserts its station.¹ For it was not made for justice alone, but also for piety² and the service of God. And in fact the latter are included under the idea of a true fellowship, and indeed are prior to the practice of justice.³

21. He who has not ever in view one and the same goal of life cannot be throughout his life one and the same.⁴ Nor does that which is stated suffice, there needs to be added what that goal should be. For just as opinion as to all the things that in one way or another are held by the mass of men to be good is not uniform, but only as to certain things, such, that is, as affect the common weal, so must we set before ourselves as our goal the common and civic weal. For he who directs all his individual impulses towards this goal will render his actions homogeneous and thereby be ever consistent with himself.⁵

22. Do not forget the story of the town mouse and the country mouse, and the excitement and trepidation of the latter.⁶

23. Socrates used to nickname the opinions of the multitude *Ghouls*,⁷ bogies to terrify children.

24. The Spartans at their spectacles assigned to strangers seats in the shade, but themselves took their chance of seats anywhere.

¹ *cp.* Dio 71. 34, § 5: διὸς διὰ πάντων ἐγένετο καὶ ἐν οὐδένι ἡλλοιώθη: Aristides *ad Reg.* § 113 (Jebb), says he was διὰ τέλους. ² i. 8. ³ Aesop, *Fab.* 297; Hor. *Sat.* ii. 6 ff. ⁴ *Lamiae*, or “vampires,” “fabulous monsters said to feed on human flesh,” Hor. *A. P.* 540; Apul. *Met.* i. 57. *cp.* Epict. ii. 1, § 14: ταῦτα Σωκράτης μορμολυκεῖα ἔκάλει: Philostr. *Vit. Apoll.* iv. 25, whence Keats took his *Lamia*.

MARCUS AURELIUS

κέ'. Τῷ Περδίκκα ὁ Σωκράτης περὶ τοῦ μὴ
ἔρχεσθαι παρ' αὐτὸν “Ινα,” ἔφη, “μὴ τῷ
κακίστῳ ὀλέθρῳ ἀπόλωμαι,” τουτέστι, μὴ εὐ
παθῶν οὐ δυνηθῶ ἀντευποιῆσαι.

κς'. Ἐν τοῖς τῶν Ἐφεσίων¹ γράμμασι παράγ-
γελμα ἔκειτο συνεχῶς ὑπομιμησκεσθαι τῶν
παλαιῶν τινος τῶν ἀρετῆ χρησαμένων.

κζ'. Οἱ Πυθαγόρειοι ἔωθεν εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν
ἀφορᾶν, ἵν’ ὑπομιμησκώμεθα τῶν ἀεὶ κατὰ
τὰ αὐτὰ καὶ ὡσαύτως τὸ ἑαυτῶν ἔργον δια-
νυόντων καὶ τῆς τάξεως καὶ τῆς καθαρότητος
καὶ τῆς γυμνότητος. οὐδὲν γὰρ προκάλυμμα
ἄστρου.

κη'. Οἱος ὁ Σωκράτης, τὸ κώδιον ὑπεξωσ-
μένος, ὅτε ἡ Ξανθίππη λαβοῦσα τὸ ἴμάτιον ἔξω
προῆλθεν καὶ ἀ εἰπεν ὁ Σωκράτης τοῖς ἑταίροις
αἰδεσθεῖσι καὶ ἀναχωρήσασιν, ὅτε αὐτὸν εἶδον
οὕτως ἐσταλμένον.

κθ'. Ἐν τῷ γράφειν καὶ ἀναγινώσκειν οὐ
πρότερον ἄρξεις, πρὶν ἀρχθῆς. τοῦτο πολλῷ
μᾶλλον ἐν τῷ βίῳ.

λ'. “Δοῦλος πέφυκας, οὐ μέτεστί σοι λόγου.”

λα'. “Ἐμὸν δ’ ἐγέλασσε φίλον κῆρ.”

λβ'. “Μέμψονται δ’ ἀρετὴν χαλεποῖς βάζοντες
ἔπεσσιν.”

λγ'. “Σῦκον χειμῶνος ζητεῖν μαινομένου·

¹ Ἐπικουρείων Gat. (from Sen. *Ep. xi*). The only Ἐφεσίων γράμματα known were magical formulae.

¹ According to Diog. Laert. *Socr.* 9; Sen. *de Ben.* v. 6, § 2; Arist. *Rhet.* A. 23, this was Archelaus, son of Perdiccas.

² cp. Fronto, *ad Appianum*, Nab. p. 251.

³ Sen. *Ep. II*, attributes the precept to the Epicureans:

BOOK XI

25. Socrates refused the invitation of Perdiccas¹ to his court, *That I come not*, said he, *to a dishonoured grave*, meaning, that I be not treated with generosity and have no power to return it.²

26. In the writings of the Ephesians³ was laid down the advice to have constantly in remembrance some one of the ancients who lived virtuously.

27. Look, said the Pythagoreans, at the sky in the morning, that we may have in remembrance those hosts of heaven that ever follow the same course and accomplish their work in the same way, and their orderly system, and their purity, and their nakedness ; for there is no veil before a star.

28. Think of Socrates with the sheepskin wrapped round him, when Xanthippe had gone off with his coat, and what he said to his friends when they drew back in their embarrassment at seeing him thus accoutred.

29. In reading and writing thou must learn first to follow instruction before thou canst give it. Much more is this true of life.

30. *'Tis not for thee, a slave, to reason⁴ why.*

31. . . . and within me my heart laughed.⁵

32. *Virtue they will upbraid and speak harsh words in her hearing.*⁶

33. *Only a madman will look for figs in winter.*

aliquis vir bonus nobis eligendus est ac semper ante oculos habendus ut sic tanquam illo spectante vivamus et omnia illo vidente faciamus. Hoc Epicurus praecepit. See, however, Plut. *Symp.* vii. 5 *ad fin.*

⁴ It is not clear whether λόγος here means speech or reason or both. The citation, of which the author is not known, has no obvious application ; still less has the following quotation from Homer. ⁵ Hom. *Od.* ix. 413.

⁶ Hes. *Op.* 185, where the reading is ἀπα τοῖς for ἀπετήν.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τοιοῦτος ὁ τὸ παιδίον ζητῶν, ὅτε οὐκ ἔτι δίδοται.”

λδ'. “Καταφιλοῦντα τὸ παιδίον δεῖν,” ἔλεγεν ὁ Ἐπίκτητος, “ἔνδον ἐπιφθέγγεσθαι· Αὔριον ἵσως ἀποθανῇ.” δύσφημα ταῦτα· “Οὐδὲν δύσφημον,” ἔφη, “ἀλλὰ¹ φυσικοῦ τινος ἔργου σημαντικόν. ἡ καὶ τὸ τοὺς στάχυας θερισθῆναι δύσφημον.”

λε'. “Ομφαξ, σταφυλή, σταφίς, πάντα μεταβολαί, οὐκ εἰς τὸ μὴ ὄν, ἀλλ' εἰς τὸ νῦν μὴ ὄν.

λς'. “Ληστὴς προαιρέσεως οὐ γίνεται” τὸ τοῦ Ἐπικτήτου.

λξ'. “Τέχνην δὲ,” ἔφη,² “περὶ τὸ συγκατατίθεσθαι εύρεῖν, καὶ ἐν τῷ περὶ τὰς ὄρμὰς τόπῳ τὸ προσεκτικὸν φυλάσσειν, ἵνα μεθ' ὑπεξαιρέσεως, ἵνα κοινωνικάι, ἵνα κατ' ἀξίαν· καὶ ὀρέξεως μὲν παντάπασιν ἀπέχεσθαι, ἐκκλίσει δὲ πρὸς μηδὲν τῶν οὐκ ἐφ' ήμūn χρῆσθαι.”

λη'. “Οὐ περὶ τοῦ τυχόντος οὖν,” ἔφη, “ἐστὶν ὁ ἀγών, ἀλλὰ περὶ τοῦ μαίνεσθαι ἡ μή.”

λθ'. “Ο Σωκράτης ἔλεγε· “Τί θέλετε; λογικῶν ψυχὰς ἔχειν ἡ ἀλόγων; Λογικῶν. Τίνων λογικῶν; ὑγιῶν ἡ φαύλων; Τγιῶν. Τί οὖν οὐ ζητεῖτε; “Οτι ἔχομεν. Τί οὖν μάχεσθε καὶ διαφέρεσθε;”

¹ ἀλλὰ omit P: perhaps *ὑνομα* from Epict. iii. 24, § 91.
² ἔφη δὲ A: δει Kron.

¹ Epict. iii. 24, § 87 quoted, not *verbatim*.

² ibid. iii. 24, § 88. ³ Epict. iii. 24, § 91.

⁴ ibid. iii. 22, § 105.

BOOK XI

No better is he who looks for a child when he may no longer have one.¹

34. *A man while fondly kissing his child, says Epictetus, should whisper in his heart²: ‘To-morrow peradventure thou wilt die.’ Ill-omened words these! Nay, said he, nothing is ill-omened that signifies a natural process. Or it is ill-omened also to talk of ears of corn being reaped.*

35. *The grape unripe, mellow, dried—in every stage we have a change, not into non-existence, but into the not now existent.³*

36. Hear Epictetus: *no one can rob us of our free choice.⁴*

37. *We must, says he,⁵ hit upon the true science of assent and in the sphere of our impulses pay good heed that they be subject to proper reservations,⁶ that they have in view our neighbour’s welfare; that they are proportionate to worth. And we must abstain wholly from inordinate desire and shew avoidance in none of the things that are not in our control.*

38. *It is no casual matter, then, said he, that is at stake, but whether we are to be sane or no.⁷*

39. Socrates was wont to say:⁸ *What would ye have? The souls of reasoning or unreasoning creatures? Of reasoning creatures. Of what kind of reasoning creatures? Sound or vicious? Sound. Why then not make a shift to get them?. Because we have them already. Why then fight and wrangle?*

⁵ i.e. Epictetus. *cp. iii. 22, § 105, and Manual, ii. 2.*

⁶ iv. 1; v. 20; vi. 50; i.e. not unconditionally, but subject to modification by circumstances.

⁷ Epict. i. 22, §§ 17–21; Hor. *Sat.* ii. 3. 43.

⁸ Only found here.

ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ ΙΒ

α'. Πάντα ἐκεῖνα, ἐφ' ἀ διὰ περιόδου εὐχῇ
ἐλθεῖν, ἥδη ἔχειν δύνασαι, ἐὰν μὴ σαυτῷ φθονῆς.
τοῦτο δέ ἐστιν, ἐὰν πᾶν τὸ παρελθὸν καταλίπῃς
καὶ τὸ μέλλον ἐπιτρέψῃς τῇ προνοίᾳ καὶ τὸ παρὸν
μόνον ἀπευθύνῃς πρὸς ὄσιότητα καὶ δικαιοσύνην.
ὄσιότητα μέν, ἵνα φιλῆς τὸ ἀπονεμόμενον· σοὶ γὰρ
αὐτὸ ἡ φύσις ἔφερε καὶ σὲ τούτῳ. δικαιοσύνην
δέ, ἵνα ἐλευθέρως καὶ χωρὶς περιπλοκῆς λέγῃς
τε τάληθή καὶ πράσσῃς τὰ κατὰ νόμον καὶ
κατ' ἀξίαν· μὴ ἐμποδίζῃ δέ σε μήτε κακία
ἀλλοτρία μήτε ὑπόληψις μήτε φωνὴ μηδὲ μὴν
αἰσθησις τοῦ περιτεθραμμένου σοι σαρκιδίου·
ὅψεται γὰρ τὸ πάσχον.

2 Ἐὰν οὖν, ὅτεδήποτε πρὸς ἔξόδῳ γένη, πάντα
τὰ ἄλλα καταλιπὼν μόνον τὸ ἡγεμονικόν σου
καὶ τὸ ἐν σοὶ θείον τιμήσῃς, καὶ μὴ τὸ παύσεσθαι
ποτε <τοῦ> ζῆν φοβηθῆς, ἀλλὰ τό γε μηδέποτε
ἀρξασθαι κατὰ φύσιν ζῆν, ἔσῃ ἄνθρωπος ἄξιος
τοῦ γεννήσαντος κόσμου καὶ παύσῃ ξένος ὧν τῆς
πατρίδος καὶ θαυμάζων ὡς ἀπροσδόκητα τὰ καθ'

¹ x. 33 ; Hor. Ep. i. 11 ad fin.

BOOK XII

1. ALL those things, which thou prayest to attain by a roundabout way, thou canst have at once if thou deny them not to thyself¹; that is to say, if thou leave all the Past to itself and entrust the Future to Providence,² and but direct the Present in the way of piety and justice: piety, that thou mayest love thy lot, for Nature brought it to thee and thee to it; justice, that thou mayest speak the truth freely and without finesse, and have an eye to law and the due worth of things³ in all that thou doest; and let nothing stand in thy way, not the wickedness of others, nor thine own opinion, nor what men say, nor even the sensations of the flesh that has grown around thee⁴; for the part affected will see to that.

If then, when the time of thy departure is near, abandoning all else thou prize thy ruling Reason alone and that which in thee is divine,⁵ and dread the thought, not that thou must one day cease to live, but that thou shouldst never yet have begun to live according to Nature, then shalt thou be a man worthy of the Universe that begat thee, and no longer an alien⁶ in thy fatherland, no longer shalt thou marvel at what happens every day as if it

² vii. 8; St. Matt. vi. 34.

³ xi. 37 (Epictetus).

⁴ vii. 68.

⁵ xii. 26.

⁶ iv. 29; xii. 13.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἡμέραν γινόμενα καὶ κρεμάμενος ἐκ τοῦδε καὶ τοῦδε.

β'. Όθεὸς πάντα τὰ ἡγεμονικὰ γυμνὰ τῶν ὑλικῶν ἀγγείων καὶ φλοιῶν καὶ καθαρμάτων¹ ὁρᾶ. μόνῳ γάρ τῷ ἑαυτοῦ νοερῷ μόνων ἅπτεται τῶν ἐξ ἑαυτοῦ εἰς ταῦτα ἐρρυηκότων καὶ ἀπωχετευμένων. ἐὰν δὲ καὶ σὺ τοῦτο ἔθίσῃς ποιεῖν, τὸν πολὺν περισπασμὸν σεαυτοῦ περιαιρήσεις. ὁ γάρ μὴ τὰ περικείμενα κρεάδια ὄρῶν ἥπου γε ἐσθῆτα καὶ οἰκίαν καὶ δόξαν καὶ τὴν τοιαύτην περιβολὴν καὶ σκηνὴν θεώμενος ἀσχολήσεται;

γ'. Τρία ἔστιν, ἐξ ὧν συνέστηκας· σωμάτιον, πνευμάτιον, νοῦς. τούτων τǎλλα μέχρι τοῦ ἐπιμελεῖσθαι δεῖν σά ἔστι· τὸ δὲ τρίτον μόνον κυρίως σόν. καὶ ἐὰν² χωρίσῃς ἀπὸ σεαυτοῦ, τουτέστιν ἀπὸ τῆς σῆς διανοίας, ὅσα ἄλλοι ποιοῦσιν ἢ λέγουσιν ἢ ὅσα αὐτὸς ἐποίησας ἢ εἶπας, καὶ ὅσα ὡς μέλλοντα ταράσσει σε, καὶ ὅσα τοῦ περικειμένου σοι σωματίου ἢ τοῦ συμφύτου πνευματίου ἀπροαίρετα πρόσεστιν, καὶ ὅσα ἢ ἔξωθεν περιιρρέουσα δίνη ἐλίσσει, ὥστε τῶν συνειμαρμένων ἐξηρμένην <καὶ> καθαρὰν τὴν νοερὰν δύναμιν ἀπόλυτον ἐφ' ἑαυτῆς ζῆν ποιοῦσαν τὰ δίκαια καὶ θέλουσαν τὰ συμβαίνοντα καὶ λέγουσαν τὰληθῆ—ἐὰν χωρίσῃς, φημί, τοῦ ἡγεμονικοῦ τούτου τὰ προσηρτημένα ἐκ προσπαθείας καὶ τοῦ χρόνου τὰ ἐπέκεινα ἢ

¹ I should prefer καλυμμάτων.

² διδ ἐὰν Gat.: καὶ ἐὰν Stich.: δ ἐὰν PA.

BOOK XII

were unforeseen, and be dependent on this or that.

2. God sees the Ruling Parts of all men stripped of material vessels and husks and sloughs. For only with the Intellectual Part of Himself is He in touch with those emanations only which have welled forth and been drawn off from Himself into them. But if thou also wilt accustom thyself to do this, thou wilt free thyself from the most of thy distracting care. For he that hath no eye for the flesh that envelopes him will not, I trow, waste his time with taking thought for raiment and lodging and popularity and such accessories and frippery.¹

3. Thou art formed of three things in combination —body, vital breath, intelligence.² Of these the first two are indeed thine, in so far as thou must have them in thy keeping, but the third alone is in any true sense thine.³ Wherefore, if thou cut off from thyself, that is from thy mind, all that others do or say and all that thyself hast done or said, and all that harasses thee in the future, or whatever thou art involved in independently of thy will by the body which envelopes thee and the breath that is twinned with it, and whatever the circumambient rotation outside of thee sweeps along, so that thine intellectual faculty, delivered from the contingencies of destiny, may live pure and undetached by itself, doing what is just, desiring what befalls it, speaking the truth—if, I say, thou strip from this ruling Reason all that cleaves to it from the bodily influences and the things that lie beyond in time and

¹ Lit. stage-scenery; cp. Sen. *ad Marc.* 10.

² ii. 2; iii. 16. Here πνευμάτιον = ψυχή (soul) in its lower sense, see Index III.

³ x. 38.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τὰ παρωχηκότα ποιήσης τε σεαυτόν, οἷος ὁ
Ἐμπεδόκλειος

“Σφαιρος κυκλοτερής, μονίη¹ περιηγέι γαίων,”
μόνον τε ζῆν ἐκμελετήσης, ὃ ζῆς, τουτέστι τὸ
παρόν, δυνήσῃ τό γε μέχρι τοῦ ἀποθανεῖν ὑπο-
λειπόμενον ἀταράκτως καὶ εὐμενῶς² καὶ ἰλέως τῷ
σαυτοῦ διάμονι διαβιώναι.

δ'. Πολλάκις ἔθαύμασα, πῶς ἔαυτὸν μὲν
ἔκαστος μᾶλλον πάντων φιλεῖ, τὴν δέ ἔαυτοῦ
περὶ αὐτοῦ ὑπόληψιν ἐν ἐλάττονι λόγῳ τίθεται ἢ
τὴν τῶν ἄλλων. ἐὰν γοῦν τινα θεὸς ἐπιστὰς ἢ
διδάσκαλος ἔμφρων κελεύσῃ, μηδὲν καθ' ἔαυτὸν
ἐνθυμεῖσθαι καὶ διανοεῖσθαι, ὃ μὴ ἄμα. καὶ
γεγωνίσκων ἔξοισει, οὐδὲ πρὸς μίαν ἡμέραν
τοῦτο ὑπομενεῖ. οὕτω τοὺς πέλας μᾶλλον
αἰδούμεθα, τί ποτε περὶ ἡμῶν φρονήσουσιν, ἢ
ἔαυτούς.

ε'. Πῶς ποτε πάντα καλῶς καὶ φιλανθρώπως
διατάξαντες οἱ θεοί, τοῦτο μόνον παρεῖδον, τὸ
ἐνίους τῶν ἀνθρώπων, καὶ πάνυ χρηστοὺς καὶ
πλεῖστα πρὸς τὸ θεῖον ὕσπερ συμβόλαια θεμέν-
ους, καὶ ἐπὶ πλεῖστον δι' ἔργων ὄσίων καὶ
ἱερουργιῶν συνήθεις τῷ θείῳ γενομένους, ἐπειδὴν
ἄπαξ ἀποθάνωσι, μηκέτι αὐθις γίνεσθαι, ἀλλ' εἰς
τὸ παντελὲς ἀπεσβηκέναι; τοῦτο δὲ εἴπερ ἄρα
καὶ οὕτως ἔχει, εὖ ἵσθι, ὅτι, εἰ ὡς ἐτέρως ἔχειν
ἔδει, ἐποίησαν ἄν. εἰ γὰρ δίκαιον ἦν, ἦν ἄν καὶ
δυνατόν, καὶ εἰ κατὰ φύσιν, ἥνεγκεν ἀν αὐτὸν ἢ

¹ μονῆ Α : κονῆ Ρ : κώνη Cor.: μονή Peugon.: περιήθει ΡΑ :
περιηγέει Cor.

² εὐμενῶς Reiske : εὐγενῶς ΡΑ.

BOOK XII

the things that are past, and if thou fashion thyself like the Empedoclean

Sphere with its circle true in its poise well-rounded rejoicing,¹

and school thyself to live that life only which is thine, namely the present, so shalt thou be able to pass through the remnant of thy days calmly, kindly, and at peace with thine own 'genius.'²

4. Often have I marvelled how each one of us loves himself above all men, yet sets less store by his own opinion of himself than by that of everyone else. At any rate, if a God or some wise teacher should come to a man and charge him to admit no thought or design into his mind that he could not utter aloud as soon as conceived,³ he could not endure this ordinance for a single day. So it is clear that we pay more deference to the opinion our neighbours will have of us than to our own.

5. How can the Gods, after disposing all things well and with good will towards men, ever have overlooked this one thing, that some of mankind, and they especially good men, who have had as it were the closest commerce with the Divine, and by devout conduct and acts of worship have been in the most intimate fellowship with it, should when once dead have no second existence but be wholly extinguished?⁴ But if indeed this be haply so, doubt not that they would have ordained it otherwise, had it needed to be otherwise. For had it been just, it would also have been feasible, and had it been in conformity with Nature, Nature would have brought it about.

¹ viii. 41; xi. 12. *cp.* Hor. *Sat.* ii. 7, 95: *in seipso totus teres atque rotundus.* ² ii. 13; iii. 5 etc. ³ iii. 4.

⁴ For Marcus' views on Immortality, see Introd.

MARCUS AURELIUS

φύσις. ἐκ δὴ τοῦ μὴ οὕτως ἔχειν, εἴπερ οὐχ οὕτως ἔχει, πιστούσθω σοι, τὸ μὴ δεῆσαι οὕτω γίνεσθαι. ὁρᾶς γὰρ καὶ αὐτός, ὅτι τοῦτο παραζητῶν δικαιολογῇ πρὸς τὸν θεόν¹ οὐκ ἀν δ' οὕτω διελεγόμεθα τοῖς θεοῖς, εἰ μὴ ἄριστοι καὶ δικαιότατοί εἰσιν. εἰ δὲ τοῦτο, οὐκ ἄν τι περιεῖδον ἀδίκως καὶ ἀλόγως ἡμελημένου τῶν ἐν τῇ διακοσμήσει.

ς'. Ἐθιζε καὶ ὅσα ἀπογινώσκεις. καὶ γὰρ ἡ χεὶρ ἡ ἄριστερά, πρὸς τὰ ἄλλα διὰ τὸ ἀνέθιστον ἀργὸς οὖσα, τοῦ χαλινοῦ ἐρρωμενέστερον ἡ ἡ δεξιὰ κρατεῖ. τοῦτο γὰρ εἴθισται.

ζ'. Ὁποῖον δεῖ καταληφθῆναι ὑπὸ τοῦ θανάτου καὶ σώματι καὶ ψυχῇ· τὴν βραχύτητα τοῦ βίου, τὴν ἀχάνειαν τοῦ ὄπιστος καὶ πρόσω αἰώνος, τὴν ἀσθένειαν πάσης ὕλης.

η'. Γυμνὰ τῶν φλοιῶν θεάσασθαι τὰ αἰτιώδη· τὰς ἀναφορὰς τῶν πράξεων· τί πόνος· τί ἥδονή· τί θάνατος· τί δόξα· τίς ὁ ἑαυτῷ ἀσχολίας αἰτιος· πῶς οὐδεὶς ὑπ' ἄλλου ἐμποδίζεται· ὅτι πάντα ὑπόληψις.

θ'. "Ομοιον δ' εἶναι δεῖ ἐν τῇ τῶν δογμάτων χρήσει παγκρατιαστῆ, οὐχὶ μονομάχῳ· ὁ μὲν γὰρ τὸ ξίφος, φῶ χρῆται, ἀποτίθεται καὶ ἀναιρεῖται· ὁ δὲ τὴν χεῖρα ἀεὶ ἔχει καὶ οὐδὲν ἄλλο ἡ συστρέψαι αὐτὴν δεῖ.

¹ *cp. Job (xiii. 3), I desire to reason with God, where a similar point is argued.*

² iv. 26.

³ iv. 50; v. 23; xii. 32.

BOOK XII

Therefore from its not being so, if indeed it is not so, be assured that it ought not to have been so. For even thyself canst see that in this presumptuous enquiry of thine thou art reasoning with God.¹ But we should not thus be arguing with the Gods were they not infinitely good and just. But in that case they could not have overlooked anything being wrongly and irrationally neglected in their thorough Ordering of the Universe.

6. Practise that also wherein thou hast no expectation of success. For even the left hand, which for every other function is inefficient by reason of a want of practice, has yet a firmer grip of the bridle than the right. For it has had practice in this.

7. Reflect on the condition of body and soul befitting a man when overtaken by death, on the shortness of life,² on the yawning gulf³ of the past and of the time to come, on the impotence of all matter.

8. Look at the principles of causation stripped of their husks; at the objective of actions; at what pain is, what pleasure, what death, what fame. See who is to blame for a man's inner unrest; how no one can be thwarted by another⁴; that nothing is but what thinking makes it.⁵

9. In our use of principles of conduct we should imitate the pancratiast not the gladiator.⁶ For the latter lays aside the blade which he uses, and takes it up again, but the other always has his hand and needs only to clench it.

⁴ v. 34; vii. 16.

⁵ v. 2; viii. 40; xii. 22. Shak. *Ham.* ii. 2. 256.

⁶ Or, *the prize-fighter not the duellist.* Some take ἀναιρέται to mean 'is slain.'

MARCUS AURELIUS

ι'. Ποῦα¹ αὐτὰ τὰ πράγματα, ὅρāν διαιροῦντα εἰς ὑλην, αἴτιον, ἀναφοράν.

ια'. Ἡλίκην² ἔξουσίαν ἔχει ἄνθρωπος μὴ ποιεῖν ἄλλο ἢ ὅπερ μέλλει ὁ θεὸς ἐπαινεῖν, καὶ δέχεσθαι πᾶν, δὲ ἀν νέμη αὐτῷ ὁ θεός.

ιβ'. Τὸ ἔξῆς τῇ φύσει μήτε θεοῖς μεμπτέον· οὐδὲν γὰρ ἐκόντες ἢ ἀκούτες ἀμαρτάνουσιν· μήτε ἄνθρωποις· οὐδὲν γὰρ οὐχὶ ἀκούτες. ὥστε οὐδὲν μεμπτέον.

ιγ'. Πῶς γελοῖος καὶ ξένος ὁ θαυμάζων ὅτιοῦν τῶν ἐν τῷ βίῳ γινομένων.

ιδ'. Ἡτοι ἀνάγκη είμαρμένη <καὶ> ἀπαράβατος τάξις, ἢ πρόνοια ἵλασιμος, ἢ φυρμὸς εἰκαίστητος ἀπροστάτητος. εἰ μὲν οὖν ἀπαράβατος ἀνάγκη, τί ἀντιτείνεις; εἰ δὲ πρόνοια ἐπιδεχομένη τὸ ἵλασκεσθαι ἄξιον σαυτὸν ποίησον τῆς ἐκ τοῦ θείου βοηθείας. εἰ δὲ φυρμὸς ἀνηγεμόνευτος, ἀσμένιξε, ὅτι ἐν τοιούτῳ [τῷ] κλύδωνι αὐτὸς ἔχεις ἐν σαυτῷ τινα οὐν ἡγεμονικόν. καν παραφέρῃ σε ὁ κλύδων, παραφερέτω τὸ σαρκίδιον, τὸ πιευμάτιον, τἄλλα· τὸν γὰρ οὐν οὐ παροίσει. (ιε'). Ἡ τὸ μὲν τοῦ λύχνου φῶς, μέχρι σβεσθῆ, φαίνει καὶ τὴν αὐγὴν οὐκ ἀποβάλλει· ἡ δὲ ἐν σοὶ ἀλήθεια καὶ δικαιοσύνη καὶ σωφροσύνη προαποσβήσεται;

ιε'. Ἐπὶ τοῦ φαντασίαν παρασχόντος, ὅτι ἡμαρτεῖν· “Τί δαὶ οἶδα, εἰ τοῦτο ἀμάρτημα;” εἰ δὲ καὶ ἡμαρτεῖν, ὅτι κατέκρινεν αὐτὸς ἑαυτὸν καὶ

¹ Gat. for τοιαῦτα : δεῖ αὐτά Reiske.

² τὸ ὑλικὴν (cp. § 18) At end of § 10.

BOOK XII

10. See things as they really are, analyzing them into Matter, Cause, Objective.¹

11. What a capacity Man has to do only what God shall approve and to welcome all that God assigns him!

12. Find no fault with Gods for what is the course of Nature, for they do no wrong² voluntarily or involuntarily; nor with men, for they do none save involuntarily.³ Find fault then with none.⁴

13. How ludicrous is he and out of place who marvels at anything that happens in life.⁵

14. There must be either a predestined Necessity and inviolable plan, or a gracious Providence, or a chaos without design or director. If then there be an inevitable Necessity, why kick against the pricks? If a Providence that is ready to be gracious, render thyself worthy of divine succour. But if a chaos without guide, congratulate thyself that amid such a surging sea thou hast in thyself a guiding Reason. And if the surge sweep thee away, let it sweep away the poor Flesh and Breath with their appurtenances: for the Intelligence it shall never sweep away. (15.) What! shall the truth that is in thee and the justice and the temperance be extinguished ere thou art, whereas the light of a lamp shines forth and keeps its radiance until the flame be quenched?

16. Another has given thee cause to think that he has done wrong: *But how do I know that it is a wrong?*⁶ And even if he be guilty, suppose that his

¹ viii. 11; xii. 18, 29.

² ii. 11.

³ vii. 22 etc.

⁴ Epict. *Man.* 5.

⁵ xii. 1.

⁶ vii. 29; ix. 38.

MARCUS AURELIUS

οῦτως ὅμοιον τοῦτο τῷ καταδρύπτειν τὴν ἑαυτοῦ
ὅψιν.

2 "Οτι ὁ μὴ θέλων τὸν φαῦλον ἀμαρτάνειν ὅμοιος
τῷ μὴ θέλοντι τὴν συκῆν ὃπὸν ἐν τοῖς σύκοις
φέρειν καὶ τὰ βρέφη κλαυθμυρίζεσθαι καὶ τὸν
ἴππον χρεμετίζειν καὶ ὅσα ἄλλα ἀναγκαῖα. τί¹
γὰρ παθῇ τὴν ἔξιν ἔχων τοιαύτην; εἰ οὖν γοργὸς
εἰ, ταύτην θεράπευσον.

ιζ'. Εἰ μὴ καθήκει, μὴ πράξης· εἰ μὴ ἀληθές
ἐστι, μὴ εἶπης. ἡ γὰρ ὄρμή σου ἔστω <ἐπὶ σοί>.

ιη'. Εἰς τὸ πᾶν ἄει δρᾶν, τί ἔστιν αὐτὸ ἐκεῖνο
τὸ τὴν φαντασίαν σοι ποιοῦν, καὶ ἀναπτύσσειν,
διαιροῦντα εἰς τὸ αἴτιον, εἰς τὸ ὑλικόν, εἰς τὴν
ἀναφοράν, εἰς τὸν χρόνον, ἐντὸς οὐ πεπαῦσθαι αὐτὸ²
δεήσει.

ιθ'. Αἴσθου ποτέ, ὅτι κρείττον τι καὶ δαιμονιώ-
τερον ἔχεις ἐν σαντῷ τῶν τὰ πάθη ποιούντων
καὶ καθάπαξ τῶν νευροσπαστούντων σε. τί μου
νῦν ἔστιν ἡ διάνοια; μὴ φόβος; μὴ ὑποψία; μὴ
ἐπιθυμία; μὴ ἄλλο τι τοιοῦτον;

κ'. Πρῶτον, τὸ μὴ εἰκῇ μηδὲ ἄνευ ἀναφορᾶς.
δεύτερον, τὸ μὴ ἐπ' ἄλλο τι ἡ ἐπὶ τὸ κοινωνικὸν
τέλος τὴν ἀναγωγὴν ποιεῖσθαι.

κα'. "Οτι μετ' οὐ πολὺ οὐδεὶς οὐδαμοῦ ἔσῃ,
οὐδὲ τούτων τι, ἂ νῦν βλέπεις, οὐδὲ τούτων τις
τῶν νῦν βιούντων. ἄπαντα γὰρ μεταβάλλειν
καὶ τρέπεσθαι καὶ φθείρεσθαι πέφυκεν, ἵνα ἔτερα
ἔφεξῆς γίνηται.

κβ'. "Οτι πάντα ὑπόληψις· καὶ αὕτη ἐπὶ σοί.

¹ iv. 6.

² xii. 10. Or, *application*.

BOOK XII

own heart has condemned him, and so he is as one who wounds his own face?

Note that he who would not have the wicked do wrong is as one who would not have the fig-tree secrete acrid juice¹ in its fruit, would not have babies cry, or the horse neigh, or have any other things be that must be. Why, what else can be expected from such a disposition? If then it chafes thee, cure the disposition.

17. If not meet, do it not: if not true, say it not. For let thine impulse be in thy own power.

18. Ever look to the whole of a thing, what exactly that is which produces the impression on thee, and unfold it, analyzing it into its causes, its matter, its objective,² and into its life-span within which it must needs cease to be.

19. Become conscious at last that thou hast in thyself something better and more god-like than that which causes the bodily passions and turns thee into a mere marionette.³ What is my mind now occupied with⁴? Fear? Suspicion? Concupiscence⁵? Some other like thing?

20. Firstly, eschew action that is aimless and has no objective. Secondly, take as the only goal of conduct what is to the common interest.⁶

21. Bethink thee that thou wilt very soon be no one and nowhere, and so with all that thou now seest and all who are now living. For by Nature's law all things must change, be transformed, and perish, that other things may in their turn come into being.⁷

22. Remember that all is but as thy opinion

³ ii. 2 etc. ⁴ v. 11. ⁵ ii. 16; ix. 40.

⁶ v. 16; xi. 21. ⁷ ix. 28, 32.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἀρον οὖν, ὅτε θέλεις, τὴν ὑπόληψιν, καὶ ὥσπερ
κάμψαντι τὴν ἄκραν, γαλήνη, σταθερὰ πάντα
καὶ κόλπος ἀκύμων.

κύ. Μία καὶ ἡτισοῦν ἐνέργεια κατὰ καιρὸν
παυσαμένη οὐδὲν κακὸν πάσχει, καθ' ὃ πέπαυται·
οὐδὲ ὁ πράξας τὴν πρᾶξιν ταύτην κατ' αὐτὸ^ν
τοῦτο, καθ' ὃ πέπαυται, κακόν τι πέπονθεν.
όμοίως οὖν τὸ ἐκ πασῶν τῶν πράξεων σύστημα,
ὅπερ ἔστιν ὁ βίος, ἐὰν ἐν καιρῷ παύσηται, οὐδὲν
κακὸν πάσχει κατ' αὐτὸ τοῦτο, καθ' ὃ πέπαυται·
οὐδὲ ὁ καταπαύσας ἐν καιρῷ τὸν είρμὸν τοῦτον
κακῶς διετέθη. τὸν δὲ καιρὸν καὶ τὸν ὅρον
δίδωσιν ἡ φύσις, ποτὲ μὲν καὶ ἡ ἴδια, ὅταν ἐν
γήρᾳ, πάντως δὲ ἡ τῶν ὅλων, ἡς τῶν μερῶν
μεταβαλλόντων νεαρὸς ἀεὶ καὶ ἀκμαῖος ὁ σύμπας
κόσμος διαμένει. καλὸν δὲ ἀεὶ πᾶν καὶ ὠραιὸν
τὸ συμφέρον τῷ ὅλῳ. ἡ οὖν κατάπαυσις τοῦ βίου
ἐκάστῳ οὐ κακὸν μέν, ὅτι οὐδὲν αἰσχρόν, εἴπερ καὶ
ἀπροαίρετον καὶ οὐκ ἀκοινώνητον ἀγαθὸν δέ,
εἴπερ τῷ ὅλῳ καίριον καὶ συμφέρον καὶ συμφερό-
μενον. οὕτω γάρ καὶ θεοφόρητος ὁ φερόμενος
κατὰ ταύτα θεῷ καὶ ἐπὶ ταύτα τῇ γνώμῃ
φερόμενος.

κδ'. Τρία ταῦτα δεῖ πρόχειρα ἔχειν ἐπὶ¹
μὲν ὡν ποιεῖς, εἱ μήτε εἰκῆ μήτε ἄλλως ἡ ὡς ἀν
ἡ δίκη αὐτὴ ἐνήργησεν· ἐπὶ δὲ τῶν ἔξωθεν συμ-
βαινόντων, ὅτι ἡτοι κατ' ἐπιτυχίαν ἡ κατὰ

¹ ii. 15 etc. ² cf. Lucian, *Scyth. ad fin.* ³ ix. 21.
⁴ vii. 25. ⁵ ii. 11; iv. 3; viii. 1. ⁶ ii. 3; iii. 4.

BOOK XII

of it,¹ and that is in thy power. Efface thy opinion then, as thou mayest do at will, and lo, a great calm! Like a mariner that has turned the headland thou findest all at set-fair and a halcyon sea.²

23. Any single form of activity, be it what it may, ceasing in its own due season, suffers no ill because it hath ceased, nor does the agent suffer in that it hath ceased to act.³ Similarly then if life, that sum total of all our acts, cease in its own good time, it suffers no ill from this very fact, nor is he in an ill plight who has brought this chain of acts to an end in its own due time. The due season and the terminus are fixed by Nature, at times even by our individual nature, as when in old age, but in any case by the Universal Nature, the constant change of whose parts keeps the whole Universe ever youthful⁴ and in its prime. All that is advantageous to the Whole is ever fair and in its bloom. The ending of life then is not only no evil to the individual—for it brings him no disgrace,⁵ if in fact it be both outside our choice and not inimical to the general weal—but a good, since it is timely for the Universe, bears its share in it and is borne along with it.⁶ For then is he, who is borne along on the same path as God, and borne in his judgment towards the same things, indeed a man god-borne.⁷

24. Thou must have these three rules ready for use. *Firstly*, not to do anything, that thou doest, aimlessly,⁸ or otherwise than as Justice herself would have acted; and to realize that all that befalls thee from without is due either to Chance or to Providence,

⁷ Epict. ii. 16, § 42: πρὸς τὸν θεὸν ἀναβλέψας εἰπεῖν, διογνωμονῶ σοι.

⁸ iv. 2; viii. 17; ix. 28.

MARCUS AURELIUS

πρόνοιαν· οὗτε δὲ τῇ ἐπιτυχίᾳ μεμπτέον οὗτε τῇ προνοίᾳ ἐγκλητέον. δεύτερον τό· ὅποιον ἔκαστον ἀπὸ σπέρματος¹ μέχρι ψυχώσεως καὶ ἀπὸ ψυχώσεως μέχρι τοῦ τὴν ψυχὴν ἀποδούναι, καὶ ἐξ οῶν ἡ σύγκρισις καὶ εἰς οἰα ἡ λύσις. τρίτου, εἰς ἄφνω μετέωρος ἔξαρθεὶς κατασκέψαι τὰ ἀνθρώπεια καὶ τὴν πολυτροπίαν, ὅτι καταφρονήσεις συνιδὼν ἄμα καὶ ὅσον τὸ περιοικοῦν ἐναερίων καὶ ἐναιθερίων· καὶ ὅτι, ὁσάκις ἀν ἔξαρθῆς, ταύτα ὅψει, τὸ ὁμοειδές, τὸ ὀλιγοχρόνιον. ἐπὶ τούτοις ὁ τῦφος.

κέ. Βάλε ἔξω τὴν ὑπόληψιν· σέσωσαι. τίς οὖν ὁ κωλύων ἐκβαλεῖν;

κς'. "Οταν δυσφορῆς ἐπί τινι, ἐπελάθου τοῦ, ὅτι πάντα κατὰ τὴν τῶν ὅλων φύσιν γίνεται, καὶ τοῦ, ὅτι τὸ ἀμαρτανόμενον ἀλλότριον, καὶ ἐπὶ τούτοις τοῦ, ὅτι πᾶν τὸ γινόμενον οὕτως ἀεὶ ἐγίνετο καὶ γενήσεται καὶ νῦν πανταχοῦ γίνεται· τοῦ, ὅση ἡ συγγένεια ἀνθρώπου πρὸς πᾶν τὸ ἀνθρώπειον γένος· οὐ γὰρ αἱματίου ἡ σπερματίου, ἀλλὰ νοῦ κοινωνία. ἐπελάθου δὲ καὶ τοῦ, ὅτι ὁ ἔκαστον νοῦς θεός καὶ ἐκεῖθεν ἐρρύηκε· τοῦ, ὅτι οὐδὲν ἴδιον οὐδενός, ἀλλὰ καὶ τὸ τεκνίον καὶ τὸ

¹ στερήματος PA : σπέρματος Gat.: στηρίγματος Schenkl: possibly στερεώματος (*solidification*).

¹ The living soul was supposed by the Stoics to be received at birth, see Plut. *de Placit. Phil.* v. 15, and *Stoic. Contr.* 38; and for a reputed conversation on this subject between Marcus and the rabbi Jehuda, see *Talmud, Sanh.* 91 b (*Jewish Encycl. Funk & Wagnalls, 1902*).

² vii. 48 ; ix. 30.

³ cp. Lucian, *Charon* (throughout). What Marcus means by ἐναέριοι and ἐναιθέριοι (or the neuters of these) is not

BOOK XII

nor hast thou any call to blame Chance or to impeach Providence. *Secondly* this: to think what each creature is from conception till it receives a living soul, and from its reception of a living soul till its giving back of the same,¹ and out of what it is built up and into what it is dissolved. *Thirdly*, that if carried suddenly into mid-heaven thou shouldest look down upon human affairs² and their infinite diversity, thou wilt indeed despise them,³ seeing at the same time in one view how great is the host that peoples the air and the aether around thee; and that, however often thou wert lifted up on high, thou wouldest see the same sights, everything identical in kind, everything fleeting. Besides, the vanity of it all!

25. Overboard with opinion⁴ and thou art safe ashore. And who is there prevents thee from throwing it overboard?

26. In taking umbrage at anything, thou forgettest this, that everything happens in accordance with the Universal Nature⁵; and this, that the wrong-doing is another's⁶; and this furthermore that all that happens, always did happen,⁷ and will happen so, and is at this moment happening everywhere. And thou forgettest how strong is the kinship between man and mankind, for it is a community not of corpuscles, of seed or blood, but of intelligence.⁸ And thou forgettest this too, that each man's intelligence is God⁹ and has emanated from Him; and this, that nothing is a man's very own, but that his babe, his clear. But cp. Apul. *de deo Socr.*, *circa med.*, and his disquisition on *δαλμωνες*; and the interesting parallel 2 Kings vi. 17.

⁴ iv. 7; vii. 17, 29; viii. 29; ix. 7; xii. 22.

⁵ v. 8, 10. ⁶ ix. 38. ⁷ vii. 1. ⁸ ii. 1.

⁹ cp. Eur. *Frag.* 1007, δ νοῦς γὰρ ἡμῶν ἐστιν ἐν ἐκάστῳ θεός: Cic. *Tusc.* i. 26, § 65.

MARCUS AURELIUS

σωμάτιον καὶ αὐτὸ τὸ ψυχάριον ἐκεῖθεν ἐλήλυθεν· τοῦ, ὅτι πάνθ' ὑπόληψις· τοῦ, ὅτι τὸ παρὸν μόνον ἔκαστος ζῆται καὶ τοῦτο ἀποβάλλει.

κζ. Συνεχῶς ἀναπολεῖν τοὺς ἐπί τινι λίαν ἀγανακτήσαντας, τοὺς ἐν μεγίσταις δόξαις ἢ συμφοραῖς ἢ ἔχθραις ἢ ὅποιαιστοῦν τύχαις ἀκμάσαντας· εἴτα ἐφιστάνειν· “Ποῦ νῦν πάντα ἐκεῖνα;” καπνὸς καὶ σποδὸς καὶ μῦθος ἢ οὐδὲ μῦθος. συμπροσπιπτέτω δὲ καὶ τὸ τοιοῦτο πᾶν, οἶνον Φάβιος Κατουλλῖνος ἐπ’ ἄγροῦ, καὶ Λούσιος Λοῦπος¹ ἐν τοῖς κήποις, καὶ Στερτίνιος ἐν Βαίαις, καὶ Τιβέριος ἐν Καπρίαις, καὶ Οὐηλίος Ροῦφος,² καὶ ὅλως ἡ πρὸς ὄτιοῦν μετ’ οἰήσεως διαφορά· καὶ ὡς εὔτελὲς πᾶν τὸ κατευτεινόμενον· καὶ ὅσῳ φιλοσοφώτερον τὸ ἐπὶ τῆς δοθείσης ὕλης ἔαυτὸν δύκαιον, σώφρονα, θεοῦς ἐπόμενον ἀφελῶς παρέχειν. ὁ γὰρ ὑπὸ ἀτυφίᾳ τῦφος τυφόμενος πάντων χαλεπώτατος.

κη. Πρὸς τοὺς ἐπιζητοῦντας, “Ποῦ γὰρ ἴδων τοὺς θεοὺς ἢ πόθεν κατειληφώς, ὅτι εἰσίν, οὗτοι σέβεις;” πρῶτον μὲν καὶ ὅψει ὄρατοί εἰσιν· ἔπειτα μέντοι οὐδὲ τὴν ψυχὴν τὴν ἐμαυτοῦ ἑώρακα, καὶ ὅμως τιμῶ. οὕτως οὖν καὶ τοὺς θεούς, ἐξ ὧν τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτῶν ἐκάστοτε πειρῶμαι, ἐκ τούτων, ὅτι τε εἰσί, καταλαμβάνω καὶ αἰδοῦμαι.

¹ Λούσιος Λοῦπος P.A. Perhaps we should read Lucius Lucullus, who would be a typical instance.

² ἐν Οὐηλίᾳ Barberini.

¹ iii. 3. ² xii. 8, 22 etc. ³ ii. 14; xii. 3.

⁴ vi. 47; viii. 25; x. 31.

⁵ cp. Pers. v. 132: *cinis et manes et fabula fies.*

BOOK XII

body, his very soul came forth from Him¹; and this, that everything is but opinion²; and this, that it is only the present moment that a man lives and the present moment only that he loses.³

27. Let thy mind dwell continually on those who have shewn unmeasured resentment at things, who have been conspicuous above others for honours or disasters or enmities or any sort of special lot. Then consider, *Where is all that now?*⁴ Smoke and dust and a legend or not a legend even.⁵ Take any instance of the kind—Fabius Catullinus in the country, Lusius Lupus in his gardens, Stertinus at Baiae, Tiberius in Capreae, and Velius Rufus—in fact a craze for any thing whatever arrogantly⁶ indulged. How worthless is everything so inordinately desired! How much more worthy of a philosopher is it for a man without any artifice to shew himself in the sphere assigned to him just, temperate, and a follower of the Gods. For the conceit that is conceited of its freedom from conceit is the most insufferable of all.⁷

28. If any ask, *Where hast thou seen the Gods or how hast thou satisfied thyself of their existence that thou art so devout a worshipper?*⁸ I answer: In the first place, they are even visible to the eyes.⁹ In the next, I have not seen my own soul either, yet I honour it.¹⁰ So then from the continual proofs of their power I am assured that Gods also exist and I reverence them.

⁶ For *οἵησις* see Epict. i. 8, § 6.

⁷ See the story of Plato and Diogenes, Diog. Laert. vi. 2, § 4.

⁸ *cp.* Dio 71. 34 § 2.

⁹ The stars were Gods in the Stoic view. *cp. above* viii. 19, and Sen. *de Benef.* iv. 8.

¹⁰ Theoph. *Ad Autol.* i. 2 and 5.

MARCUS AURELIUS

κθ'. Σωτηρία βίου ἔκαστον δι' ὅλου αὐτὸ^ν τί ἐστιν ὄρâν, τί μὲν αὐτοῦ τὸ ὑλικόν, τί δὲ τὸ αἰτιῶδες· ἐξ ὅλης τῆς ψυχῆς τὰ δίκαια ποιεῖν καὶ τάληθή λέγειν. τί λοιπὸν ἡ ἀπολαύειν τοῦ ζῆν συνάπτοντα ἄλλο ἐπ' ἄλλῳ ἀγαθόν, ὥστε μηδὲ τὸ βραχύτατον διάστημα ἀπολείπειν;

λ'. "Ἐν φῶς ἡλίου, καν διείργηται τοίχοις,
ὅρεσιν, ἄλλοις μυρίοις. μία οὐσία κοινή, καν διείργηται
ιδίως ποιοῖς σώμασι μυρίοις. μία ψυχή, καν φύσει διείργηται μυρίαις καὶ ιδίαις
περιγραφαῖς. μία νοερὰ ψυχή, καν διακεκρίσθαι
δοκή. τὰ μὲν οὖν ἄλλα μέρη τῶν εἰρημένων,
οίλον πνεύματα, καὶ ὑποκείμενα ἀναίσθητα καὶ
ἀνοικείωτα ἄλλήλοις· καίτοι κάκεῖνα τὸ νοοῦν¹
συνέχει καὶ τὸ ἐπὶ τὰ αὐτὰ βρῖθον. διάνοια δὲ
ιδίως ἐπὶ τὸ ὁμόφυλον τείνεται καὶ συνίσταται
καὶ οὐ διείργεται τὸ κοινωνικὸν πάθος.

λα'. Τί ἐπιζητεῖς; τὸ διαγίνεσθαι;² ἄλλὰ τὸ
αἰσθάνεσθαι; τὸ ὄρμᾶν; τὸ αὔξεσθαι; τὸ λήγειν
αὐθις; τὸ φωνῆ χρῆσθαι; τὸ διανοεῖσθαι; τί
τούτων πόθου σοι ἄξιον δοκεῖ; εἰ δὲ ἔκαστα
εὐκαταφρόνητα, πρόσιθι ἐπὶ τελευταῖον τὸ
ἔπεσθαι τῷ λόγῳ καὶ τῷ θεῷ. ἄλλὰ μάχεται
τὸ τιμᾶν ταῦτα, τὸ ἄχθεσθαι, εἰ διὰ τοῦ τεθνηκέναι
στερήσεται τις αὐτῶν.

¹ τὸ ξνοῦν Rend.: τὸ νοοῦν Gat.: τὸν νοῦν PA.

² διαπνεῖσθαι Leopold.

¹ xii. 10, 18 etc.

² v. 6; ix. 23.
³ viii. 57.

BOOK XII

29. Salvation in life depends on our seeing everything in its entirety and and its reality, in its Matter and its Cause¹: on our doing what is just and speaking what is true with all our soul. What remains but to get delight of life by dovetailing one good act² on to another so as not to leave the smallest gap between?

30. There is one Light of the Sun, even though its continuity be broken by walls, mountains,³ and countless other things. There is one common Substance, even though it be broken up into countless bodies individually characterized. There is one Soul, though it be broken up among countless natures and ~~by~~ individual limitations. There is one Intelligent Soul, though it seem to be divided. Of the things mentioned, however, all the other parts, such as Breath, are the material Substratum of things,⁴ devoid of sensation and the ties of mutual affinity—yet even they are knit together by the faculty of intelligence and the gravitation which draws them together. But the mind is peculiarly impelled towards what is akin to it, and coalesces with it, and there is no break in the feeling of social fellowship.

31. What dost thou ask for? Continued existence? But what of sensation? Of desire? Of growth? Of the use of speech? The exercise of thought? Which of these, thinkest thou, is a thing to long for? But if these things are each and all of no account, address thyself to a final endeavour to follow Reason and to follow God.⁵ But it militates against this to prize such things, and to grieve if death comes to deprive us of them.

⁴ With an alteration of stops these words may mean *such as Breath and Matter, are devoid of sensation.*

⁵ vii. 31; xii. 27.

MARCUS AURELIUS

λβ'. Πόστον μέρος τοῦ ἀπείρου καὶ ἀχανοῦς αἰῶνος ἀπομεμέρισται ἐκάστῳ; τάχιστα γὰρ ἐναφανίζεται τῷ ἀιδίῳ. πόστον δὲ τῆς ὅλης οὐσίας; πόστον δὲ τῆς ὅλης ψυχῆς; ἐν πόστῳ δὲ βωλαρίῳ τῆς ὅλης γῆς ἔρπεις; πάντα ταῦτα ἐνθυμούμενος μηδὲν μέγα φαντάζου ἡ τό, ὡς μὲν ἡ σὴ φύσις ἄγει, ποιεῖν, πάσχειν δέ, ὡς ἡ κοινὴ φύσις φέρει.

λγ'. Πῶς ἑαυτῷ χρῆται τὸ ἡγεμονικόν; ἐν γὰρ τούτῳ τὸ πᾶν ἔστι. τὰ δὲ λοιπὰ ἡ προαίρετά ἔστιν ἡ ἀπροαίρετα, νεκρὰ καὶ καπνός.

λδ'. Πρὸς θανάτου καταφρόνησιν ἐγερτικώτατον, ὅτι καὶ οἱ τὴν ἡδονὴν ἀγαθὸν καὶ τὸν πόνον κακὸν κρίνοντες ὅμως τούτου κατεφρόνησαν.

λε'. Ὡι τὸ εὔκαιρον μόνον ἀγαθὸν καὶ φῶ τὸ πλείους κατὰ λόγον ὄρθὸν πράξεις ἀποδοῦναι τῷ ὀλιγωτέρας ἐν ἵσῳ ἔστι, καὶ φῶ τὸν κόσμον θεωρῆσαι πλείονι ἡ ἐλάσσονι χρόνῳ οὐ διαφέρει, τούτῳ οὐδὲ ὁ θάνατος φοβερόν.

λσ'. Ἀνθρωπε, ἐπολιτεύσω ἐν τῇ μεγάλῃ ταύτῃ πόλει· τί σοι διαφέρει, εἰ πέντε ἔτεσιν <ἢ ἐκατόν>¹; τὸ γὰρ κατὰ τοὺς νόμους ἵσον ἐκάστῳ. τί οὖν δεινόν, εἰ τῆς πόλεως ἀποπέμπει σε οὐ τύραννος οὐδὲ δικαστὴς ἄδικος, ἀλλ' ἡ φύσις ἡ εἰσαγαγοῦσα;

¹ <ἢ τρισὶ> Reiske : I have preferred ἐκατόν.

² iv. 50 ; v. 24.

² Epict. i. 12 § 26 : οὐκ οἰσθα ἡλίκον μέρος εἰ πρὸς τὰ ὕντα;
³ iii. 4. ⁴ v. 11 ; x. 24. ⁵ x. 31.

BOOK XII

32. How tiny a fragment of the boundless abyss of Time has been appointed to each man!¹ For in a moment it is lost in eternity. And how tiny a part of the Universal Substance!² How tiny of the Universal Soul! And on how tiny a clod of the whole Earth dost thou crawl! Keeping all these things in mind, think nothing of moment save to do what thy nature leads thee to do, and to bear what the Universal Nature brings thee.³

33. How does the ruling Reason treat itself?⁴ That is the gist of the whole matter. All else, be it in thy choice or not, is but as dust and smoke.⁵

34. Most efficacious in instilling a contempt for death is the fact that those who count pleasure a good and pain an evil have nevertheless contemned it.⁶

35. Not even death can bring terror to him who regards that alone as good which comes in due season,⁷ and to whom it is all one whether his acts in obedience to right reason are few or many, and a matter of indifference whether he look upon the world for a longer or a shorter time.⁸

36. Man, thou hast been a citizen in this World-City,⁹ what matters it to thee if for five years or a hundred? For under its laws equal treatment is meted out to all. What hardship then is there in being banished from the city, not by a tyrant or an unjust judge but by Nature who settled thee in it?

⁶ e.g. Otho, Petronius, and Epicurus, for whose famous syllogism on death see Aul. Gell. ii. 8; Diog. Laert. *Epic.* xxxi. § 2, and cp. Bacon's Essay "On Death."

⁷ x. 20; xii. 23. ⁸ iii. 7; xii. 36.

⁹ ii. 16; iii. 11; iv. 4.

MARCUS AURELIUS

οίον εἰ κωμῳδὸν ἀπολύοι τῆς σκηνῆς ὁ παραλαβὼν
στρατηγός. “’Αλλ’ οὐκ εἴπουν τὰ πέντε μέρη, ἀλλὰ
τὰ τρία.” καλῶς εἴπας· ἐν μέντοι τῷ βίφ τὰ τρία
ὅλον τὸ δρᾶμά ἔστιν. τὸ γὰρ τέλειον ἐκεῖνος ὄριζει
ὁ τότε μὲν τῆς συγκρίσεως, νῦν δὲ τῆς διαλύσεως
αἴτιος· σὺ δὲ ἀναίτιος ἀμφοτέρων. ἅπιθι οὖν
ἴλεως· καὶ γὰρ ὁ ἀπολύων ἴλεως.¹

¹ Here follow in A the verses translated in the Introduction.

BOOK XII

So might a praetor who commissions a comic actor, dismiss him from the stage. *But I have not played my five acts, but only three.* Very possibly, but in life three acts count as a full play.¹ For he, that is responsible for thy composition originally and thy dissolution now, decides when it is complete. But thou art responsible for neither. Depart then with a good grace, for he that dismisses thee is gracious.

¹ iii. 8; xi. 1; Epict. *Man* 17.

THE SPEECHES OF MARCUS

THE SPEECHES OF MARCUS

INTRODUCTION

MARCUS learnt from Rusticus to "eschew rhetoric and fine language"¹ and thanked the Gods that "he had not made more progress in his rhetorical studies,"² but the Greek in which he clothed his *Thoughts* shews that he had made some progress in them, and Dio says he was "practised in the principles of rhetoric."³

Only three speeches, purporting to be by Marcus, have come down to us. It is not certain how far we can accept them as authentic. The first is reported by Dio Cassius, who was twenty at the time of its delivery, and as he lived at Rome, and afterwards held high office in the state, he had ample sources of information. He expressly states that Marcus read this address to the soldiers on the rebellion of Cassius, and being written it was more likely to have been preserved verbatim. It cannot be denied that the speech has touches characteristic of Marcus, but of course these might have been purposely introduced by a skilful forger. On the other hand the style is rather rhetorical and artificial and more in keeping with Dio's known proclivities. Still there is a dignity and restraint, not ~~altogether~~ unworthy of the occasion, noticeable throughout. Unfortunately it only comes to us in the epitome of Xiphilinus, and we do not know how far he has curtailed it, and it certainly seems

¹ See above, i. 7; Fronto, *De Elog.* 3.

² See above, i. 17, § 4. ³ Dio, 71. 35, § 1.

THE SPEECHES OF MARCUS

too short for such an occasion. In any case it must have been delivered in Latin.

The last remark applies also to the dying speech of Marcus as given by Herodian, another contemporary authority, but one who was fond of composing suitable speeches for his characters when what they had actually said was not recoverable. The shortness of this speech may be said to be in its favour, as the Emperor was in the last stages of his illness. The opening words are perhaps too plaintive and personal, but the remainder is natural and appropriate. The last few words of such a ruler and friend must have impressed his hearers and may well have been taken down at the time. Still it is strange that there is no hint of this speech in the description of the last scene given by Capitolinus.¹

The third speech, from the "Life of Avidius Cassius" by Gallicanus, is much less likely to be genuine. That particular piece of work is full of suspected material, and Marius Maximus, from whom this speech is probably taken, though a contemporary, is not a trustworthy authority, while the diction and absurd rhetoric of the missive, for it was a speech sent to the Senate and not delivered in it, are decidedly against its genuineness.

¹ Who here uses as his authority "The last great historian of Rome"; see *Das Kaiserhaus der Antonine und der Letzte Historiker Roms*, Otto Th. Schulz, p. 128, who thinks the anonymous writer may have been Lollius Urbicus. See Lampr. *Vit. Diadum.* ix. 2.

MARCUS AURELIUS

‘Ο δὲ δὴ Μάρκος παρὰ τοῦ Οὐήρου¹ τοῦ τῆς Καππαδοκίας ἄρχοντος τὴν ἐπανάστασιν αὐτοῦ μαθῶν τέως μὲν συνέκρυψτεν αὐτά, ἐπεὶ δὲ οἱ στρατιῶται τῇ τε φήμῃ ἵσχυρῶς ταράσσοντο καὶ ἐλογοποίουν πολλά, συνεκάλεσεν αὐτοὺς καὶ ἀνέγνω τοιάδε·

“Οὐκ ἀγανακτήσων, ὃ συστρατιώται, ἡ δύναρούμενος παρελήνθα. χαλεπαίνειν μὲν γὰρ τί δεῖ πρὸς τὸ δαιμόνιον, φά πάντα ἔξεστιν; ὀλοφύρεσθαι δὲ ἵσως ἀνάγκη τοὺς ἀδίκως δυστυχοῦντας· δὲ καὶ ἐμοὶ οὐν συμβέβηκεν. πῶς γὰρ οὐ δεινὸν πολέμοις ἡμᾶς ἐκ πολέμων συμφέρεσθαι; πῶς δὲ οὐκ ἀτοπον καὶ ἐμφυλίῳ συμπλακῆναι; πῶς οὐκ ἀμφότερα καὶ δεινότητι καὶ ἀτοπίᾳ νικᾶ, τὸ μηδὲν πιστὸν ἐν ἀνθρώποις εἶναι,² ἀλλ’ ἐπιβεβουλεῦσθαι τέ με ὑπὸ τοῦ φιλτάτου καὶ ἐς ἀγῶνα ἀκούσιον καθίστασθαι μήτε τι ἡδικηκότα μήτε πεπλημμεληκότα;³ τίς μὲν γὰρ ἀρετὴ ἀσφαλής, τίς δὲ φιλία ἔτι νομισθήσεται ἐμοῦ ταῦτα πεπονθότος; πῶς δὲ οὐκ ἀπόλωλε μὲν πίστις,⁴ ἀπόλωλε δὲ ἐλπὶς ἀγαθή; ἀλλ’ εἰ μὲν μόνος ἐγὼ ἐκινδύνευον, παρ’ οὐδὲν ἀν τὸ πρᾶγμα ἐποιησάμην· οὐ γάρ που καὶ ἀθάνατος ἐγενήθην· ἐπεὶ δὲ δημοσίᾳ τε ἀπόστασις, μᾶλλον δὲ ἐπανάστασις, γέγονε, καὶ δι πόλεμος πάντων δόμοις ἡμῶν ἀπτεται, ἐβουλόμην, εἰ οἷόν τε ἦν, προσκαλέσασθαι τὸν Κάσσιον καὶ δικαιολογήσασθαι πρὸς αὐτὸν παρ’ ὑμῖν ἡ παρὰ τῇ γερουσίᾳ· καὶ ἡδέως ἀν ἀμαχὶ παρεχώρησα αὐτῷ τῆς ἡγεμονίας, εἰ τοῦτο τῷ κοινῷ συμφέρειν ἐδοκεῖ. ὑπὲρ τοῦ κοινοῦ γὰρ καὶ πονῶν καὶ κινδυνεύων διατελῶ, τοσοῦτόν τε ἔνταυθοι χρόνον ἔξω τῆς Ἰταλίας πεποίηκα, ἀνθρω-

¹ i.e. Martius Verus, see below.

² He forgot his own precepts; see *Medit.* ix. 42, unless, as is possible, the speech came first.

³ Dio 71. 34, § 3, οὐτε ἔκῶν οὐτε ἄκων ἐπλημμέλει. cpr. Aristides, *Orat. ad Regem*, § 106 (Jebb).

⁴ cpr. *Medit.* v. 33.

THE SPEECHES OF MARCUS

*Speech to the Army on the news of the Revolt of Cassius,
175 A.D.*

MARCUS, learning of the revolt from Verus, the Governor of Cappadocia, kept the news secret for a time, but as the soldiers were both greatly perturbed by the rumour and were freely discussing it, he called them together and read the following speech :

"It is not, O fellow soldiers, to give way to resentment or lamentations that I am come before you. For what avails it to be wroth with the Divinity that can do whatever pleaseseth Him ? Still, perhaps, they that are undeservedly unfortunate cannot but bewail their lot ; and that is the case with me now. For it is surely a terrible thing for us to be engaged in wars upon wars ; surely it is shocking to be involved even in civil strife, and surely it is more than terrible and more than shocking that there is no faith to be found among men, and that I have been plotted against by one whom I held most dear and, although I had done no wrong and committed no transgression, have been forced into a conflict against my will. For what rectitude shall be held safe, what friendship be any longer deemed secure, seeing that this has befallen me ? Has not Faith utterly perished, and good Hope perished with it ? Yet I had counted it a slight thing, had the danger been mine alone—for assuredly I was not born immortal—but now that there has been a defection, or rather a revolt, in the state, and the war comes home to all of us equally, I would gladly, had it been possible, have invited Cassius to argue the question out before you or before the Senate, and willingly without a contest have made way for him in the supreme power, had that seemed expedient for the common weal. For it is only in the public interest that I continue to incur toil and danger, and have spent so much time here beyond the bounds of Italy, an old man as I now am

MARCUS AURELIUS

πος καὶ γέρων ἥδη¹ καὶ ἀσθενής² καὶ οὕτε τροφὴν ἀλυπον οὐθὲν πυνον ἀφροντι λαβεῖν δυνάμενος.

“Ἐπεὶ δ' οὐκ ἂν ποτε συγκαθεῖναι ἐς τοῦτο δὲ Κάσσιος ἐθελήσειε, πῶς γὰρ ἀν πιστεύσειε μοι, ἀπιστος οὗτο περὶ ἐμὲ γεγενημένος; ὑμᾶς γε, δὲ συστρατιώτας, χρὴ θαρρεῖν. οὐ γάρ που κρείττους Κίλικες καὶ Σύροις καὶ Ιουδαῖοι καὶ Αἰγύπτιοι ὑμῶν οὕτε ἐγένοντό ποτε οὕτε ἔσονται, οὐδὲ ἀν μυριάκις πλείους ὑμῶν, ὅσῳ νῦν ἐλάττους εἰσίν, ἀθροισθῶσιν. οὐ μὴν οὐδὲ αὐτὸς δὲ Κάσσιος, εἰ καὶ τὰ μάλιστα καὶ στρατηγικὸς εἴναι καὶ πολλὰ κατωρθωκέναι δοκεῖ, λόγου τινὸς ἄξιος νῦν ἀν φανείη οὕτε γὰρ ἀετὸς κολυιῶν ἡ καὶ λέων νεθρῶν ἡγησάμενος ἄξιομαχος γίνεται, καὶ τὸν Ἀραβικὸν τὸν τε Παρθικὸν ἐκείνον πόλεμον οὐ Κάσσιος ἀλλ' ὑμεῖς κατειργάσασθε. ἀλλως τε, εἰ καὶ ἐκείνος ἐκ τῶν πρὸς Πάρθους πραχθέντων εὐδόκιμός ἐστιν, ἔχετε καὶ ὑμεῖς Οὐνῆρον,³ ὃς οὐδὲν ἥττον ἀλλὰ καὶ μᾶλλον αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐνίκησε πλείω καὶ κατεκτήσιτο.

“Αλλὰ τάχα μὲν καὶ ἥδη μετανεύόκε, ζῶντά με μεμαθηκώς οὐ γάρ που καὶ ἄλλως ἡ ὡς τετελευτηκότος μου τοῦτο ἐποίησεν. ἀν δὲ καὶ ἐπὶ πλείου ἀντίσχη, ἀλλ' ὅταν γε καὶ προσίοντας ἡμᾶς πύθηται, πάντως γνωσιμαχήσει, καὶ ὑμᾶς φοβηθεῖς καὶ ἐμὲ αἰδεσθείς. ἐγὼ γοῦν ἐν μόνον δέδοικα, δὲ συστρατιώτας, εἰρήσεται γὰρ πᾶσα πρὸς ὑμᾶς ἡ ἀλήθεια, μὴ ἡτοι αὐτὸς ἀντὸν ἀποκτείνῃ, αἰσχυνθεὶς ἐς τὴν ἡμετέραν ὅψιν ἐλθεῖν, ἡ ἔτερος μαθών, ὅτι τε ἦξω καὶ ὅτι ἐπ' αὐτὸν ὅρμῶμαι, τοῦτο ποιήσῃ. μέγα γάρ μου ἀθλον καὶ τοῦ πολέμου καὶ τῆς νίκης, καὶ ἡλίκον οὐδεὶς πώποτε ἀνθρώπων ἔλαβεν, ἀφαιρήσεται. τί δὲ τοῦτο ἐστιν; ἀδικήσαντα ἀνθρωπον ἀφεῖναι, πρὸς φιλίαν ὑπερβάντα φίλον μεῖναι, πίστιν καταλύσαντι πιστὸν⁴ διαγενέσθαι. παράδοξα μὲν ἵσως ταῦθ' ὑμῖν φαίνεται, ἀλλ' οὐκ ἀπιστεῖν ὑμᾶς αὐτοῖς δεῖ· οὐ γάρ που

¹ He was 54. cp. *Thoughts*, i. 17, § 6; ii. 2, 6.

² Yet five years more of this anxious and strenuous life were to be his. cp. Dio, 71. 22, § 3.

³ Martius Verus. Suidas credits him with tact, slimness, and warlike ability. He gave Marcus the first news of the revolt.

⁴ cp. *Medit.* ix. 42.

THE SPEECHES OF MARCUS

and an ailing, unable to take food without pain, or sleep without care.

"But since Cassius would never agree to meet me for this purpose—for what faith could he have in me who kept so ill his faith to me?—you, my fellow soldiers, must in any case be of good cheer. For never, I take it, have Cilicians and Syrians and Jews and Egyptians been a match for you, and never will be, no, not though their muster was as many thousand times more numerous than yours as it is now less. Nor need even Cassius himself, ever so good a commander though he is reputed to be, and credited with many successful campaigns, be held of any great account at the present crisis. For an eagle at the head of daws makes no formidable foe, nor a lion at the head of fawns, and as for the Arabian war and the great Parthian war, it was you, not Cassius, who brought them to a successful end. Moreover, even if he has won distinction by his Parthian campaigns, you too have Verus, who has won not less but even far more victories, and made greater acquisitions than he.

"But perhaps even now, learning that I am alive, he has repented of his action; for surely it was only because he believed me dead, that he acted thus. But if he still maintain his opposition, yet when he learns that we are indeed marching against him, he will doubtless take a different view both from dread of you and from reverence for me. I at any rate, fellow soldiers, have but one fear—for I will tell you the whole truth—that either he should take his own life from very shame of coming into our presence, or that another should slay him, learning both that I shall come and that I am actually setting out against him. For great is the prize of war and of victory—a prize such as no one among men has ever won—of which I shall be deprived. And what is that? To forgive a man who has done wrong, to be still a friend to one who has trodden friendship underfoot, to continue faithful to one who has broken faith. What I say may perhaps seem to you incredible, but you must not disbelieve it;

MARCUS AURELIUS

καὶ ἀπλῶς πάντα τὰ ἀγαθὰ ἐκ τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἀπόλωλεν, ἀλλ᾽ ἔστι καὶ παρ᾽ ἡμῖν ἔτι τῆς ἀρχαίας ἀρετῆς λείφανον. ἀν δέ που ἀπιστῇ τις, καὶ διὰ τοῦτο μεῖζόν ἔστι μοι τὸ ἐπιθύμημα, ἵνα, δι μηδεὶς ἀν πιστεύσειε γενέσθαι δύνασθαι, τοῦτο ἵδη γενόμενον. ὡς ἔγωγε τοῦτ' ἀν μόνον ἐκ τῶν παρόντων κακῶν κερδάναιμι, εἰ δυνηθείην καλῶς θέσθαι τὸ πρᾶγμα¹ καὶ δεῖξαι πᾶσιν ἀνθρώποις ὅτι καὶ ἐμφυλίοις πολέμοις ἔστιν ὄρθως χρήσασθαι.”—Dio, 71. 24–26, § 4.

Ex Oratione Marci Antonini (ad Senatum missa).

“Habetis igitur p.c., pro gratulatione victoriae generum meum consulem, Pompeianum² dico, cuius aetas olim remuneranda fuerat consulatu, nisi viri fortes intervensissent, quibus reddi debuit, quod a re publica debebatur. Nunc quod ad defectionem Cassianam pertinet, vos oro atque obsecro, p.c., ut censura vestra deposita meani pietatem clementiamque servetis, immo vestram, neque quemquam unum senatus occidat. Nemo senatorum puniatur, nullius fundatur viri nobilis sanguis, deportati redeant, proscripti bona recipient. Utinam possem multatos etiam ab inferis excitare! Non enim umquam placet in imperatore vindicta sui doloris, quae si iustior fuerit, acrior videtur. Quare filiis Avidii Cassii et genero et uxori veniam dabitis. Et quid dico veniam? Cum illi nihil fecerint. Vivant igitur securi scientes sub Marco vivere. Vivant in patrimonio parentum pro parte donato,³ auro, argento, vestibus fruantur, sint securi, sint vagi et

¹ *cp. Medit.* vi. 2.

² Incorrect. This Pompeianus was consul in 173. In 176 Claud. Pompeianus Quintianus, who married the daughter of Verus and Lucilla (see Dio 72. 4, § 4), was cons. suff. As for the victory, there had been no battle, but Cassius after “a three months’ dream, of empire” was assassinated by one of his own soldiers.

THE SPEECHES OF MARCUS

for, I take it, all that is good has not vanished utterly from among men, but there still remains among us a vestige of pristine virtue. But if any be incredulous, the greater even on that account is my desire that he should with his own eyes see actually done that which no man would believe could be done. For this would be the only gain I could get from my present troubles, if I were able to bring the matter to an honourable conclusion, and show to all the world that even civil war can be dealt with on right principles.”¹

From a Speech of Marcus Antoninus (sent to the Senate).

“ In return, then, for your congratulations on our victory, Conscription Fathers, you have as consul my son-in-law Pompeianus, whose mature years should long ago have been rewarded with a consulship had not other brave men had prior claims for recognition from the state. Now with regard to the rebellion of Cassius, I beg and beseech you, Conscription Fathers, to lay aside all thoughts of severity and safeguard my or rather your humanity and clemency, and let no single person be put to death by the Senate. Let no Senator be punished, the blood of no man of noble birth be spilt ; let the exiles return, the proscribed recover their goods. Would that I could recall the condemned also from the Shades ! For revenge for his own wrongs never sits well on an emperor ; the more it is deserved, the more severe it seems. So you must pardon the sons of Avidius Cassius, and his son-in-law, and his wife. But why do I say “pardon,” since *they* have done no wrong ? Let them live, then, in security, knowing that they live under Marcus. Let them live on their patrimony proportionately divided ; let them enjoy their gold, their silver, their raiment ;

¹ Or, *made a right use of.*

³ Capit. *Vit. Marc.* xxvi. 11, 12 : filii Cassii et amplius media parte acceperunt paterni patrimonii et auro atque argento adiuti.

MARCUS AURELIUS

liberi, et per ora omnium ubique populorum circumferant meae, circumferant vestrae pietatis exemplum. Nec magna haec est, p.c., clementia, veniam proscriptorum liberis et coniugibus dari: ego vero a vobis peto, ut conscos senatorii ordinis et equestris a caede, a proscriptione, a timore, ab infamia, ab invidia, et postremo ab omni vindicetis iniuria¹ detisque hoc meis temporibus, ut in causa tyrannidis qui in tumultu cecidit, probetur occisus."—Vulcat. *Vit. Avid. Cass.* xii.

Συγκαλέσας τοὺς φίλους ὅσοι τε παρῆσαν τῶν συγγενῶν καὶ τὸν παῖδα καταστησάμενος, ἐπειδὴ πάντες συνῆλθον, ἡσυχῇ τοῦ σκίμποδος κουφίσας ἑαυτὸν τοιούτων λόγων ἥρξατο·

"Αχθεσθαι μὲν ὑμᾶς ἐφ' οἷς ὀρᾶτέ με διακείμενον, θαυμαστὸν οὐδέν· φύσει τε γὰρ τὸ ἀνθρώπινον ἐλεεινὸν² ἐν ταῖς τῶν δμοφύλων συμφοραῖς, τά τε δεινὰ ὑπ' ὄψιν πεσόντα οἰκτον προκαλεῖται μείζονα. ἐμοὶ δέ τι καὶ πλέον ὑπάρχειν παρ' ὑμῶν οἴομαι· ἐκ γὰρ ὧν αὐτὸς διάκειμαι πρὸς ὑμᾶς, ἀμοιβαίαν εὔνοιαν εἰκότως ἥλπικα. νῦν δὲ καιρὸς εὔκαιρος ἐμοὶ τε αἰσθέσθαι μὴ μάτην πρὸς ὑμᾶς τοσούτου χρόνου τιμῆν τε καὶ σπουδὴν κατατεθεῖσθαι, ὑμῖν τε ἀποδοῦναι χάριν δείξασιν ὅτι ὑπὲρ ὧν ἐτύχετε οὐκ ἀμνημονεῖτε. ὀρᾶτε δή μοι τὸν ὑιόν, ὃν αὐτὸλ ἀνεθρέψασθε, ἀρτὶ τῆς μειρακίων ἥλικίας ἐπιβαίνοντα,³ καὶ δεόμενον ὁσπερ ἐν χειμῶνι καὶ ζάλη τῶν κυθερησόντων, μή ποι φερόμενος ὑπ'

¹ This frigid rhetoric does not savour of Marcus.

² Pity was scouted by the sterner Stoics; but see *Medit.* ii. 13.

³ Commodus would be nineteen, but μειράκιον means a boy of fourteen or fifteen. Would ἀποβαίνοντα, unless

THE SPEECHES OF MARCUS

let them be unmolested, let them be free to come and go as they please, and let them bear witness among all peoples everywhere to my humanity and yours. Nor is this any great clemency, O Conscript Fathers, that the children and wives of the proscribed should be pardoned : but what I ask of you is that you should shield all accomplices of Cassius among the Senators or Knights, from death, proscription, apprehension, degradation, hatred, and in fact from all injury, and grant this glory to my reign, that in a rebellion against the throne death should overtake only those who have fallen in the revolt."

The Last Words of Marcus.

Calling together his friends and as many of his relations as were at hand, and setting his child before them, when all had come together, he raised himself gently on his pallet-bed, and began to speak as follows :

"That you should be grieved at seeing me in this state is not surprising, for it is natural to mankind to pity the misfortunes of their kinsfolk, and the calamities which fall under our own eyes call forth greater compassion. But I think that something even more will be forthcoming from you to me ; for the consciousness of my feelings towards you has led me to hope for a recompense of goodwill from you. But now the time is well-timed both for me to learn that I have not lavished love and esteem upon you in vain for all these years, and for you by showing your gratitude to prove that you are not unmindful of the benefits you have received. You see here my son, whose bringing-up has been in your own hands, just embarking upon the age of manhood and, like a ship amid storm and breakers, in need of those who shall guide the helm, lest in his want of experience of the right course

it clashes with the metaphor that follows, meet the difficulty ?

MARCUS AURELIUS

ἀτελοῦς τῆς τῶν δεόντων ἐμπειρίας¹ ἐσ φαῦλα ἐπιτηδεύματα προσαραχθῆ. γένεσθε δὴ οὖν αὐτῷ ὑμεῖς ἀνθ' ἐνὸς ἐμοῦ πατέρες πολλοί, περιέποντές τε καὶ τὰ ἄριστα συμβουλεύοντες. οὗτε γὰρ χρημάτων πλῆθος οὐδὲν αὐταρκεῖ πρὸς τυραννίδος ἀκρατίαν, οὗτε δορυφόρων φρουρὰ ἵκανή βίεσθαι τὸν ἄρχοντα, εἰ μὴ προϋπάρχει ἡ τῶν ὑπηκόων εὔνοια. μάλιστα δὲ ἔκεινοι ἐσ ἀρχῆς μῆκος ἀκινδύνως ἥλασταν,² ὅσοι μὴ φόβον ἐξ ὡμότητος, πόθον δὲ τῆς αὐτῶν χρηστότητος ταῖς τῶν ἀρχομένων ψυχαῖς ἐνέσταξαν. οὐ γὰρ οἱ ἐξ ἀνάγκης δουλεύοντες ἀλλ' οἱ μετὰ πειθοῦς ὑπακούοντες ἀνύποπτοι καὶ ἔξω κολακείας προσποιήτου δρῶντές τε καὶ πάσχοντες διατελοῦσιν, καὶ οὐδέ ποτε ἀφημιάζουσιν, ἦν μὴ βίᾳ καὶ ὑβρεὶ ἐπὶ τοῦτο ἄχθωσι. χαλεπὸν δὲ μετριάσαι τε καὶ ὅρον ἐπιθεῖναι ἐπιθυμίαis ὑπηρετούσης ἐξουσίας. τοιαῦτα δὴ συμβουλεύοντες αὐτῷ, καὶ δων ἀκούει παρὼν ὑπομήσκοντες, ὑμῖν τε αὐτοῖς καὶ πᾶσιν ἄριστον ἀποδείξετε βασιλέα, τῇ τε ἐμῇ μνήμῃ χαριεῖσθε τὰ μέγιστα, οὗτω τε μόνως ἀίδιον³ αὐτὴν ποιῆσαι δυνήσεσθε.”—Herodian, i. 4, § 2.

¹ Dio (72. 1. 1) says Commodus was by nature ἀκακος, but from too great ἀπλότης (cp. 71. 22. 3) and cowardice easily influenced by his entourage, and was thus by ignorance led into bad ways. See also Julian, Conviv. 429. 14.

² cp. Vulc. Gall. Vit. Coss. viii. 3.

THE SPEECHES OF MARCUS

he should be dashed upon the rock of evil habits. Be ye therefore to him many fathers in the place of me, his one father, taking care of him and giving him the best counsel. For neither can any wealth, however abundant, suffice for the incontinence of a tyranny, nor a bodyguard be strong enough to protect the ruler, unless he has first of all the good-will of the governed. For those rulers complete a long course of sovereignty without danger who instil into the hearts of their subjects not fear by their cruelty, but love by their goodness. For it is not those who serve as slaves under compulsion, but those who are obedient from persuasion, that are above suspicion, and continue doing and being done by without any cloak of flattery, and never show restiveness unless driven to it by violence and outrage. And it is difficult to check and put a just limit to our desires when Power is their minister. By giving my son then such advice, and bringing to his memory what he now hears with his own ears, you will render him both for yourselves and all mankind the best of kings, and you will do my memory the greatest of services, and thus alone be enabled to make it immortal."

³ This aspiration does not tally with the repeated denunciations of fame in the *Meditations* iii. 10; iv. 19, 33, τί δὲ καὶ ξέτιν ὅλως τὸ ἀείμνηστον; ὅλον κενόν.

THE SAYINGS OF MARCUS

INTRODUCTION

NOTHING lets us into the secret of a man's character better than little anecdotes about him, and even seemingly trivial sayings uttered by him without any thoughts of a listening posterity. Unfortunately few such reminiscences of Marcus are extant, but the little that remains will be found to throw some light on a character which it has become too much the fashion to accuse of feebleness, criminal complaisance and inefficiency on the one hand, and on the other of harshness and cruelty. No support is given here to either of these mutually destructive views of a personality that was a striking combination of 'sweetness and gravity,'¹ of mildness and tenacity, of justice and mercy. We see a truly religious man who lived up to his creed,² a tempered Stoicism.

¹ *Medit.* i. 15.

² Dio 71. 30, § 2; Phil. *Vit. Soph.* ii. 11 (p. 242 Kayser); *C.I.L.* ii. 6278 = *Eph. Epigr.* vii. 385.

MARCUS AURELIUS

(1) *Capit. iv. 7.*

Post hoc patrimonium paternum sorori¹ totum concessit, cum eum ad divisionem mater vocaret, responditque “avi bonis se esse contentum,” addens “ut et mater, si vellet, in sororem suum patrimonium conferret, ne inferior esset soror marito.”²

(2) *Capit. v. 3, 4.*

Ubi autem comperit se ab Hadriano³ adoptatum, magis est deterritus quam laetus, iussusque in Hadriani privatam domum migrare invitus de maternis hortis⁴ recessit. Cumque ab eo domestici quaererent, cur tristis in adoptionem regiam transiret, disputavit “quae mala in se contineret imperium.”

(3) *Capit. xxvii. 7.*

Sententia Platonis⁵ semper in ore illius fuit, “Florere civitates, si aut philosophi imperarent aut imperantes philosopharentur.”

(4) *Dio 71. 34, § 4 = Suidas sub voce Μάρκος.*

Εἰ μέν τις χρηστόν τι ἐπραττεν, ἐπήνει καὶ ἔχρητο ἐσ ἐκεῖνο αὐτῷ,⁶ τῶν δὲ ἑτέρων οὐ προσεποιεῦτο, λέγων δτι “ποιῆσαι μέν

¹ His only sister Cornificia. ² Ummidius Quadratus.

³ Schulz supplies *Antonino auctore* before Hadriano.

⁴ These “Gardens,” that is, Lucilla’s private residence in its own private grounds, were probably on the Caelian hill.

⁵ Plato, *Rep.* 473 D, quoted also by Cicero in his letter to his brother Quintus, *de provincia administranda*.

⁶ A lesson learnt from Pius; see above, i. 16, § 6.

THE SAYINGS OF MARCUS

(1)

AFTER this¹ he gave up to his sister all that he had inherited from his father, though his mother invited him to share it equally, and replied that *he was content with being his grandfather's heir*, adding that *his mother too, if she were willing, should bestow her property upon his sister, that his sister might be on an equality with her husband.*

(2)

When however he learnt that he had been adopted by Hadrian, he was more abashed than pleased, and when bidden to migrate to Hadrian's private house, he left his mother's mansion with regret. And when the household asked him why he took his adoption into the royal house so sadly, he enlarged upon *the evils inseparable from sovereign power.*

(3)

The sentence of Plato was for ever on his lips : *Well was it for states, if either philosophers were rulers or rulers philosophers.*²

(4)

If anyone did anything excellent, he praised him and utilized him for that, but did not expect other things from him, saying, *It is impossible to make men exactly as*

¹ About 136 A.D., when Marcus was 15.

² Aur. Victor (*De Caes.* xv. 3) applies the saying to Pius. Justin was well advised therefore in his *Apology* (i. 3), addressed to Pius and Marcus, in quoting the similar aphorism: *Ἐφη που καὶ τις τῶν παλαιῶν· ἀν μὴ οἱ ἀρχοντες φιλοσοφήσωσι καὶ οἱ ἀρχόμενοι, οὐκ ἀν εἴη τὰς πόλεις εὑδαιμονῆσαι.*

MARCUS AURELIUS

τινι ἀνθρώπους ὅποίους βούλεται ἔχειν ἀδύνατόν ἐστι,¹ τοῖς δὲ δὴ οὖσι προσήκει, ἐσ ὁ τι ἂν τις αὐτῶν τῷ κοινῷ χρήσιμος ἔσται.

(5) *Capit. xxii. 3, 4.*

Semper cum optimatibus non solum bellicas res sed etiam civiles, priusquam faceret aliquid, contulit. Denique sententia illius praecipua semper haec fuit: “Aequius est, ut ego tot talium amicorum² consilium sequar, quam ut tot tales amici meam unius voluntatem sequantur.”

(6) *Dio, 71. 29, § 3.*

Οὗτῳ γε πόρρω παντὸς φόνου καθειστήκει ὥστε καὶ λεόντα τινα δεδιδαγμένον ἀνθρώπους ἐσθίειν ἐκέλευσε μὲν ἐπαχθῆναι αἰτησαμένου τοῦ δῆμου, οὕτε δὲ ἐκείνον εἰδεν οὔτε τὸν διδάσκαλον αὐτοῦ ἡλευθέρωσε, καίπερ ἐπὶ πολὺ τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἐγκειμένων οἱ, ἀλλὰ καὶ κηρυχθῆναι προσέταξεν ὅτι “οὐδὲν ἄξιον ἐλευθερίας πεποίηκεν.”³

(7) *Capit. xix. 8.*

De qua (*sc. Faustina*) cum diceretur Antonino Marco, ut eam repudiaret, si non occideret, dixisse fertur: “Si

¹ See above, ix. 42, and cp. vii. 7.

² *Amici* was a usual name for the *Concilium*, or Privy Council, of the Emperor, a body of advisers first organized by Hadrian, and they may be meant here. Of a difficult case, where his own interests were involved, Marcus says to Fronto (*Ad Caes.* i. 17): “Duas res animo meo carissimas secutus sum, rationem veram et sententiam tuam. Di velint, ut semper quod agam, secundo iudicio tuo agam.”

³ The jurist Paulus (*Dig.* xl. 9. 17) tells us that Marcus “prohibuit ex acclamatione populi manumittere”; cp. *Cod.* vii. 11. 3. Fronto (*Ad Caes.* i. 8) seems to imply that Pius was more indulgent in this matter.

THE SAYINGS OF MARCUS

one wishes them to be, but it is our duty to utilize them, such as they are, for any service in which they can be useful to the common weal.

(5)

Not only in military but also in civil affairs, before doing anything, he always consulted the chief men of the State. In fact this was ever a favourite saying of his : *It is fairer that I should follow the advice of Friends so many and so wise, than that Friends so wise and so many should follow my single will.*¹

(6)

So averse from all bloodshed was his disposition that, though at the people's request he allowed a lion trained to devour men to be introduced into the arena, yet he not only refused to look at it himself or to enfranchise its trainer, in spite of a persistent demonstration of the audience against him, but even had it proclaimed that *the man had done nothing to deserve freedom.*²

(7)

When it was said to Marcus Antoninus of his wife, that he should divorce her, if he did not slay her, he is reported to have said, *If we dismiss the wife, let us also*

¹ cp. Capit. xi. 10, where we are told that Marcus consulted his *praefecti* (i.e. *praetorio*) and relied especially on the jurist Scaevola. In the *Digest* he calls Rusticus, Volusius Maecianus and Salvius Julianus *amici*. A maxim of his was *Blush not to be helped* (*Medit.* vii. 7); cp. also Fronto, *Ad Caes.* i. 17, "post consultationem amicorum."

² Yet his bias towards the enfranchisement of slaves was notorious. See *Digest*, xxxviii. 4. 3 : "quod videlicet favore constituit libertatis."

MARCUS AURELIUS

uxorem dimittimus, reddamus et dotem."¹ Dos autem quid habebatur nisi imperium, quod ille ab socero volente Hadriano adoptatus acceperat.

(8) *Digest iv. 2. 13 = xlviij. 7. 7 (Callistratus).*

Cum Marcianus diceret, "Vim nullam feci," Caesar dixit, "Tu vim putas solum si homines vulnerentur? Vis est et tunc quotiens quis id, quod deberi putat, non per iudicem reposcit. Non puto autem nec verecundiae nec dignitati nec pietati tuae convenire quicquam non iure facere."

(9) *Galen, xiv. 658 (Kühn).*

Τῷ δὲ Πειθολάφῳ² εἶπεν “ἰατρὸν ἔχειν ἔνι καὶ τοῦτον ἐλεύθερον,” πάνυ διετέλει τε περὶ ἐμοῦ λέγων ἀεὶ “τὸν μὲν ιατρῶν πρώτον <με> εἶναι τῶν δὲ φιλοσόφων μόνον.”

(10) *Dio, 71. 3. 3 = Fragm. Dind. v. p. 206.
= Zonaras xii. 2.*

Καίτοι δὲ ίσχυροτάτου ἀγῶνος καὶ λαμπρᾶς νίκης γεγενημένης, ὅμως ὁ αὐτοκράτωρ αἰτηθεὶς παρὰ τῶν στρατιωτῶν οὐκ ἔδωκε χρήματα, αὐτὸ τοῦτο εἰπὼν ὅτι “ὅσῳ ἀν πλεῖστον παρὰ τὸ καθεστηκὸς λάβωσι, τοῦτο ἐκ τοῦ αἵματος τῶν τε γονέων σφῶν καὶ τῶν συγγενῶν ἐσπεπράξεται· περὶ γάρ τοι τῆς αὐταρχίας ὁ

¹ The same thing had been said long before by Burrhus to Nero of his wife Octavia, and in that case was applicable, but it was not so in this, and besides Marcus was devoted to his wife to the last. See above, i. 17, § 7; Capit. xxvi. 4 ff.; Dio, 71. 30, § 1.

² One of the court physicians, who had been utterly wrong in their diagnosis of the illness of Marcus, while Galen had accurately divined it by merely feeling the patient's pulse.

THE SAYINGS OF MARCUS

surrender the dowry. But what was meant by the dowry if not the Empire, which he had received when adopted by his father-in-law at Hadrian's wish?¹

(8)

When Marcianus said, "I have done no violence," Caesar said, *Do you think that violence is shewn only if men are wounded?* There is violence then also, whenever a man demands back what he thinks due to him otherwise than by judicial process. But I do not think it consistent with either your modesty or your dignity or your loyalty to the state that you should do anything except legally.

(9)

And he said to Peitholaus that *he had but one physician and he was a free man*, and he went on to say repeatedly about me that *I was the first of physicians and the only philosopher.*²

(10)

And yet, though a most stubborn contest had been followed by a brilliant victory, nevertheless, when petitioned by the soldiers, the Emperor refused to give them a largess, saying only this, that *the more they received beyond their fixed pay, the more would be wrung from the life-blood of their parents and kinsfolk; for in the matter*

¹ Marcus did not receive the Empire through Pius, but by Hadrian's direct nomination. The latter arranged for Marcus to marry Fabia, the sister of Lucius Commodus, but Pius broke this arrangement in favour of his own daughter Faustina. She inherited an immense *patrimonium* from her father for Marcus.

² Galen was one of the most remarkable men of ancient times.

MARCUS AURELIUS

Θεὸς μόνον κρίνειν δύναται.”¹ οὗτω καὶ σωφρόνως καὶ ἐγκρατῶς αὐτῶν ἥρχεν ὅστε, καίπερ ἐν τοσούτοις καὶ τηλικούτοις πολέμοις ἀν, μηδὲν ἔξω τοῦ προσήκοντος μητ' ἐκ κολακείας εἰπεῖν μητ' ἐκ φόβου ποιῆσαι.²

(11) *Philostratus, Vit. Soph.* ii. 1, p. 242, *Kayser*.

‘Υπὸ τούτου δὴ τοῦ πάθους ἐκφρων ὁ Ἡρώδης ἐγένετο καὶ παρῆλθεν ἐς τὸ βασιλεῖον δικαστήριον³ οὔτε ἔννους καὶ θανάτου ἐρῶν. παρελθὼν γὰρ καθίστατο ἐς διαβολὰς τοῦ αὐτοκράτορος οὐδὲ σχηματίσας τὸν λόγον, ὡς εἰκὸς ἦν ἄνδρα γεγυμνασμένου τῆς τοιᾶσδε ιδέας μεταχειρίσασθαι τὴν ἑαυτοῦ χολήν, ἀλλ’ ἀπηγκωνισμένη τῇ γλώττῃ καὶ γυμνῇ διετείνετο λέγων “ταῦτα μοι ἡ Λουκίου ξενία, ὃν σύ μοι ἔπειμψας ὅθεν δικάζεις, γυναικὶ με καὶ τριετεῖ παιδίῳ καταχαριζόμενος.” Βασσαίου δὲ τοῦ πεπιστευμένου τὸ ἔιφος θάνατον αὐτῷ φήσαντος ὁ Ἡρώδης “δ λῶστε,” ἔφη, “γέρων ὀλίγα φοβεῖται.” ὁ μὲν οὖν ἀπῆλθε τοῦ δικαστηρίου εἰπὼν ταῦτα καὶ μετέωρον καταλείψας πολὺ τοῦ ὕδατος,⁴ ἡμεῖς δὲ τῶν ἐπιδήλως τῷ Μάρκῳ φιλοσοφηθέντων καὶ τὰ περὶ τὴν δίκην ταύτην ἡγώμεθα· οὐ γὰρ ξυνήγαγε

¹ The other version has : τὸ δὲ κράτος τῆς αὐταρχίας οὐκ ἐν τοῖς στρατιώταις ἀλλ’ ἐν τῷ Θεῷ κεῖται.

² cpr. Aristides (*Ad Reg.* § 116, Jebb.): καὶ μὴν τὰ μὲν πρὸς πολεμίους ἀνδρεῖοις πολλοῖς ὑπῆρξε γενέσθαι, ὑπὸ δὲ τῶν σφετέρων στρατιωτῶν αὐτοὺς ἥρχεσθαι <μᾶλλον> ἢ κρατεῖν· δ δὲ οὕτω ῥᾳδίως ἐκράτησε καὶ κατεστήσατο, ὥστε πολλῶν μὲν καὶ ἀπέρων διτῶν τῶν δεδομένων αὐτοῖς, χαλεπῶν δὲ καὶ φοβερῶν εἰ μὴ τοσαῦτα λαμβάνειν, οὐκ ἐπηνέξησε (MS ἐπηνέξε) τὰς ἐπιθυμίας αὐτῶν κ.τ.λ.

³ The trial took place at Sirmium in Pannonia about 170 A.D., Herodes being accused of cruel and illegal conduct at Athens. He had been accused by the same persons of similar malpractices nearly thirty years before (see Fronto, *Ad Caes.* iii. 2-6). This Herodes was an Athenian famous for his riches, his generosity, and his oratory. He had been the teacher of Marcus in Greek rhetoric.

⁴ The water-clock that timed the speakers in a trial.

THE SAYINGS OF MARCUS

indeed of his sovereignty God alone could be judge. With such wisdom and self-command did he rule them that, though engaged in so many and such great wars, he never swerved from what was right so as either to say anything from flattery or do anything from fear.¹

(11)

Herodes was driven frantic by this calamity² and came up to the Emperor's seat of judgment no longer in his right mind and in love with death. For coming forward he set himself to rail at the Emperor, and without measuring his words or keeping his anger in hand, as might have been expected from one who was practised in speaking, but in defiant and unbridled language he gave vent to his passion, saying "This is all that comes of my friendship with Lucius,³ whom you sent to me, that in judging me you gratify your wife and three-year old child."⁴ But when Bassaeus,⁵ who had been invested with the power of capital punishment, threatened him with death, Herodes said, "My fine fellow, an old man has little more to fear." Saying this he left the court without availng himself of his full time for speaking. But in our opinion the conduct of Marcus at this trial too was signally in keeping with his philosophical tenets ; for

¹ This incident recorded by Dio belongs to the earlier stage of the Marcomannic war, when the Emperor was in great straits for money.

² The calamity was the death by lightning of his adopted daughters, the children of Alcimedon.

³ Lucius Verus, the colleague of Marcus, who had died about a year before. He stayed with Herodes on his way to the East in 162.

⁴ Vibia Sabina, the last child of Marcus, who with Faustina, hence called *Mater Castrorum*, was with him at Sirmium.

⁵ Bassaeus Rufus, praetorian prefect 168-177.

MARCUS AURELIUS

τὰς ὁφρῦς, οὐδὲ ἔτρεψε τὸ δῆμα, ὃ καν διαιτήτης τις ἐπαθεν,
ἀλλ' ἐπιστρέψας ἑαυτὸν ἐς τοὺς Ἀθηναίους “ἀπολογεῖσθε,”
ἔφη, “ὦ Ἀθηναῖοι, εἰ καὶ μὴ ξυγχωρεῖ Ἡρώδης.” καὶ
ἀκούων ἀπολογουμένων ἐπὶ πολλοῖς μὲν ἀφανῶς ἡλγησεν,
ἀναγιγνωσκομένης δὲ αὐτῷ καὶ Ἀθηναίων ἐκκλησίας,¹ ἐν ᾧ
ἔφαινοντο καθαπτόμενοι τοῦ Ἡρώδου, ὡς τοὺς ἄρχοντας τῆς
Ἐλλάδος ὑποποιουμένου πολλῷ τῷ μέλιτι, καὶ που καὶ βεβοη-
κότες “ὦ πικροῦ μέλιτος” καὶ πάλιν “μακάριοι οἱ ἐν τῷ λοιμῷ
ἀποθνήσκοντες,” οὕτως ἐσείσθη τὴν καρδιὰν ὑφ’ ὅν ἥκουσεν, ὡς
ἐς δάκρυα φανερὰ ὑπαχθῆναι. τῆς δὲ τῶν Ἀθηναίων ἀπολογίας
ἔχουσης κατηγορίαν τοῦ τε Ἡρώδου καὶ τῶν ἀπελευθέρων τὴν
ὅργην δὲ Μάρκος ἐς τοὺς ἀπελευθέρους ἔτρεψε κολάσει χρησά-
μενος ὡς οἶνον ἐπιεικεῖ, οὕτω γὰρ αὐτὸς χαρακτηρίζει τὴν ἑαυτοῦ
κρίσιν, μόνῳ δὲ Ἀλκιμέδοντι τὴν τιμωρίαν ἐπανῆκεν “ἀποχρῶ-
σαν εἴναι οἱ” φήσας “τὴν ἐπὶ τοῖς τέκνοις συμφοράν.” ταῦτα
μὲν δὴ ὡδε ἐφιλοσοφεῖτο τῷ Μάρκῳ.

(12) Themistius, Orat. 15. 191b.

‘Αντωνίῳ τῷ Ῥωμαίων αὐτοκράτορι, ὃ τούτῳ αὐτὸν ἐπώνυμον
“δὲ Εὐσεβὴς” ἦν,² τοῦ στρατεύματος ὑπὸ δίψους [αὐτῷ]
πιεζομένου, ἀνασχὼν τὸ χείρε ὃ βασιλεὺς πρὸς τὸν οὐρανὸν
“ταύτῃ” ἔφη “τῇ χειρὶ προύτρεψάμην σε καὶ ἵκέτευσα τὸν
ζωῆς δοτῆρα, ἢ ζωὴν οὐκ ἀφειλόμην.” καὶ οὕτω κατήδεσε τὸν
θεὸν τῇ εὐχῇ ὥστε ἔξ αἰθρίας ἥκον νεφέλαι ὑδροφοροῦσαι τοῖς
στρατιώταις.

¹ Perhaps ἐγκλήσεως.

² This was the peculiar cognomen of Pius, but Marcus sometimes receives it even in inscriptions.

THE SAYINGS OF MARCUS

he did not frown, or so much as turn his eyes, as even an arbitrator might have done, but turning to the Athenians said : *Make your plea, men of Athens, even though Herodes is not for allowing you to do so.* And as he listened to their case, at many points he was secretly grieved, but when the complaint of the Athenian Assembly was being read to him, in which they openly attacked Herodes for trying to win over the Governors of Greece with many honeyed words, and somewhere or other even cried out, “O bitter honey!” and again, “Happy they that perish in the pestilence!” he was so deeply moved by what he heard, that he was brought to tears in the sight of all. But as the case of the Athenians comprised an accusation against his freedmen as well as against Herodes, Marcus diverted his anger on to the freedmen, punishing them however as leniently as possible—for that is how he himself characterizes his sentence,—but to Alcimedon alone he remitted the punishment, alleging that his calamity in respect of his children was punishment enough.¹ In a way then thus worthy of a philosopher did Marcus act on this occasion.

(12)

When the army of Antoninus the Roman Emperor, who also had the cognomen of Pius, was perishing of thirst,² the king, raising both his hands to heaven, said, *With this hand, wherewith I have taken away no life, have I implored Thee and besought the Giver of life.* And he so prevailed with God by his prayer that upon a clear sky there came up clouds bringing rain to his soldiers.

¹ cp. his words in the *Digest*, i. 18. 14 : *his madness is in itself punishment enough.*

² At the time of the so-called “miraculous victory” over the Quadi in 174 ; see Dio, 71. 8.

MARCUS AURELIUS

(13) *Ammianus Marcellinus, xxii. 5.*

Cum Palaestinam transiret Aegyptum petens Judaeorum foentium et tumultuantium saepe taedio percitus dolenter dicitur exclamasse, “O Marcomanni, O Quadi, O Sarmatae, tandem alios vobis inertiores¹ inveni.”

(14) *Dio, Fragm. Dind. v. p. 206.*

“Οτι παρασκευαζομένου τοῦ Μάρκου² εἰς τὸν κατὰ Κασσίον πόλεμον οὐδεμίᾳν βαρβαρικὴν συμμαχίαν ἔδεξατο καίτοι πολλῶν συνδραμόντων αὐτῷ, λέγων “μὴ χρῆναι τοῖς βαρβάροις εἰδέναι τὰ μεταξὺ ‘Ρωμαίων κινούμενα κακά.”

(15) *Vulc. Gallicanus, Vit. Cass. viii.*

Caput eius ad Antoninum cum delatum esset, ille non exultavit, non elatus est, sed etiam doluit “ereptam sibi esse occasionem misericordiae,” cum diceret “se vivum illum voluisse capere, ut illa exprobraret beneficia sua eumque servaret.” Denique cum quidam diceret reprehendendum Antoninum, quod tam mitis esset in hostem suum eiusque liberos et affectus atque omnes, quos conscius tyrannidis repperisset, addente illo qui reprehendebat “Quid si ille vicisset?” dixisse dicitur: “Non sic deos coluimus nec sic vivimus, ut ille nos vinceret.” Enumeravit deinde “omnes principes, qui occisi essent, habuisse causas quibus mererentur occidi nec quemquam facile bonum vel victum a tyranno vel occisum, dicens

¹ This word is doubtful, another reading being *inetiores*. Suggested emendations are *inquietiores*, *ineptiores*.

² This should be in the nominative case.

THE SAYINGS OF MARCUS

(13)

When he was crossing Palestine on his way to Egypt, constantly moved with disgust at the unsavoury and turbulent Jews, he is said to have cried out, *O Marco-manni, O Quadi, O Sarmatians, at length have I found others more useless than you.*¹

(14)

When Marcus was making preparations for the war against Cassius he would not accept any aid from barbarians, though many offered him their services, saying that *the barbarians must not know the troubles that were being stirred up between Romans.*²

(15)

When the head of Cassius was brought to him, Antoninus shewed no exultation or pride, but even lamented that *he had been robbed of an opportunity for compassion, for he had wished to take him alive, he said, that he might reproach him with the benefits he had done him, and then spare his life.* Lastly when one said that Antoninus was to blame for his clemency toward his enemy and his enemy's children and relations and all whom he had found to be accomplices in the usurpation, the man who had imputed the blame going on to say, "What if he had been successful?" Marcus is said to have answered, *My worship of the Gods has not been such, my life is not such, that he could be successful.* He then, enumerating all the Emperors who had been killed, pointed out that *they had deserved their fate, and that no good Emperor had easily been overcome by a usurper or slain, adding that Nero had*

¹ The date would be 176.

² So in the Boer War, in view of the native question in South Africa, England refused to employ her Indian and Maori troops.

MARCUS AURELIUS

meruisse Neronem, debuisse Caligulam, Othonem et Vitellium non imperare voluisse.”¹ Etiam de Galba paria sentiebat, cum diceret “in imperatore avaritiam esse acerbissimum malum. Denique non Augustum, non Traianum, non Hadrianum, non patrem suum a rebellibus potuisse superari, cum et multi fuerint et ipsis vel invitatis vel insciis extincti.” Ipse autem Antoninus a senatu petiit, “ne graviter in conscos defectionis animadverteatur,” eo ipso tempore, quo rogavit, “ne quis senator temporibus suis capitali supplicio adficeretur,” quod illi maximum amorem conciliavit.

(16) *Philostratus, Vit. Soph. ii. 9, p. 252, Kays.*

Οἰκιστὴν δὲ καὶ τὸν Ἀριστείδην τῆς Σμύρνης εἰπεῖν οὐκ ἀλάζων ἔπαινος ἀλλὰ δικαιότατός τε καὶ ἀληθέστατος. τὴν γὰρ πόλιν ταύτην ἀφανισθεῖσαν ὑπὸ σεισμῶν τε καὶ χασμάτων οὕτω τι ὡλοφύρατο πρὸς τὸν Μάρκον, ὡς τῇ μὲν ἀλλῃ μονωδίᾳ θαμὰ ἐπιστενάξαι τὸν βασιλέα, ἐπὶ δὲ τῷ “ζέφυροι δὲ ἐρήμην καταπνέουσι” καὶ δάκρυα τῷ βιβλίῳ² ἐπιστάξαι τὸν βασιλέα, ξυνοικίαν τε τῇ πόλει ἐκ τῶν τοῦ Ἀριστείδου ἐνδοσίμων³ νεῦσαι. ἐτύγχανε δὲ καὶ ξυγγεγονὼς ἡδη τῷ Μάρκῳ δὲ Αριστείδης ἐν Ἰωνίᾳ, ὡς γὰρ τοῦ Ἐφεσίου Δαμιανοῦ ἡκουον, ἐπεδήμει μὲν δὲ αὐτοκράτωρ ἡδη τῇ Σμύρνῃ τρίτην ἡμέραν, τὸν δὲ Ἀριστείδην οὕπω γιγνώσκων ἥρετό τοὺς Κυντιλίους μὴ ἐν τῷ τῶν ἀσπαζομένων δミλῷ παρεωραμένος αὐτῷ δὲ ἀνήρ εἴη,

¹ Should be *debuuisse* or *meruisse*.

² We have the letter, addressed to Marcus and Commodus, in the works of Aristides (Jebb, § 209). Its date would be 177–180.

³ Lit. *to the tune set by Aristides*.

THE SAYINGS OF MARCUS

deserved, Caligula had earned his death, Otho and Vitellius ought never to have reigned. His opinion of Galba was similar, for he remarked that *in an Emperor avarice¹ was the most hateful of faults.* *In a word, rebels had never been able to overcome either Augustus or Trajan or Hadrian or his own father, for many as they were, they had been crushed against the wish or without the knowledge of the reigning Emperor.* Antoninus himself, however, besought the Senate not to proceed with severity against accomplices in the rebellion, asking at the same time that no Senator should in his reign be punished with death; and this won for him the love of all.

(16)

It is no flatterer's praise but the truest and most just to call Aristides the founder of Smyrna. For he made so moving a lament to Marcus over the utter destruction of this city by earthquakes and openings in the ground, that over the rest of the mournful tale the Emperor sighed repeatedly, but at the "breezes blowing over a city of desolation" he even let tears fall upon the writing, and granted the restoration of the city in accordance with the suggestions of Aristides. It chanced also that Aristides had already made the acquaintance of Marcus in Ionia, for when they were attending the lectures of the Athenian Damianus, the Emperor who had already been three days in Smyrna, not yet knowing Aristides personally, requested the Quintili² to see that the man should not be passed over unnoticed in the imperial levée. They said

¹ cp. Capit. xxix. 5 : *Nihil magis et timuit et deprecatus est quam avaritiae famam de qua se multis epistulis purgat.* Dio, after speaking of his liberality and public benefactions, says (71. 32, § 3) : ἀφ' οὐπέρ καὶ νῦν θαυμάζω τῶν αἰτιωμένων αὐτὸν ὡς οὐ μεγαλόφρονα γενόμενον.

² Two brothers, famed for their character, ability, and fraternal affection. They exercised conjointly the governorship of Achaia, and later a military command in Pannonia. They also shared an unjust death at the hands of Commodus.

MARCUS AURELIUS

οἱ δὲ οὐδὲ αὐτοὶ ἔφυσαν ἑωρακέναι αὐτόν, οὐ γὰρ παρεῖναι <Δν> τὸ μὴ οὐ ξυστῆσαι, καὶ ἀφίκοντο τῆς ὑστεραίας τὸν Ἀριστείδην ἄμφω δορυφοροῦντες, προσειπὼν δὲ αὐτὸν ὁ αὐτοκράτωρ “διὰ τί σε” ἔφη “βραδέως εἴδομεν;” καὶ ὁ Ἀριστείδης “θεώρημα,” ἔφη, “ὦ βασιλεῦ, ἡσχολεῖ, γνωμὴ δὲ θεωροῦσα μὴ ἀποκρεμανύσθω οὐ ζητεῖ.” ὑπερησθεὶς δὲ ὁ αὐτοκράτωρ τῷ ἥθει τάνδρὸς ὡς ἀπλοϊκωτάτῳ τε καὶ σχολικωτάτῳ “πότε” ἔφη “ἀκροάσομαι σου;” καὶ ὁ Ἀριστείδης “τήμερον” εἰπεν “πρόβατε καὶ αὔριον ἀκροῶ οὐ γὰρ ἐσμὲν τῶν ἐμούντων ἀλλὰ τῶν ἀκριβούντων. ἔξεστω δέ, ω βασιλεῦ, καὶ τοὺς γνωρίμους παρεῖναι τῇ ἀκροάσει.” “ἔξεστω,” ἢ δ’ ὁ Μάρκος, “δημοτικὸν γάρ.” εἰπόντος δὲ τοῦ Ἀριστείδου, “διδόσθω δὲ αὐτοῖς, ω βασιλεῦ, καὶ βοᾶν καὶ κροτεῖν, ὅποσον δύνανται,” μειδιάσας ὁ αὐτοκράτωρ “τοῦτο” ἔφη “ἐπὶ σοὶ κεῖται.”

(17) *Dio*, 71. 32, § 1 = *Fragm. Dind.* v. p. 207.

Ἐλθὼν δὲ ἐς τὴν Ῥώμην καὶ πρὸς τὸν δῆμον διαλεγόμενος, ἐπειδὴ μεταξὺ λέγοντος αὐτοῦ τά τε ἄλλα καὶ ὅτι πολλοῖς ἔτεσιν ἀποδεδημηκὼς ἦν, ἀνεβόησαν “όκτώ,” καὶ τοῦτο καὶ ταῖς χερσὶν, ἵνα δὴ καὶ χρυσὸὺς τοσούτους ἐς τὸ δεῖπνον¹ λάβωσι, προσενεδείξαντο, διεμειδίασε καὶ ἔφη καὶ αὐτὸς “όκτώ,” καὶ μετὰ ταῦτα ἀνὰ διακοσίας δραχμὰς αὐτοῖς κατένειμεν, ὅσον οὕπω πρότερον εἶλήφεσαν.

(18) *Dio*, 71. 33, § 2.

Ο δὲ Μάρκος καὶ χρήματα ἐκ τοῦ δημοσίου² ἤτησε τὴν βουλὴν οὐχ ὅτι μὴ ἔκειντο ἐπὶ τῇ τοῦ κρατοῦντος ἔξουσίᾳ, ἀλλ’

¹ The *congiarium* was originally a distribution of food by measure. The largess to soldiers was called *donativum*.

² i.e. the *aerarium*. The Emperor's privy purse was called *fiscus*.

THE SAYINGS OF MARCUS

they had not seen him themselves, for they would not have failed to introduce him ; and on the next day they both arrived acting as body-guard to Aristides, and the Emperor addressing him said, *Why have you been so slow in letting me see you?* And Aristides said, "A professional problem, O King, occupied me, and the mind, when so engaged, must not be detached from the prosecution of its enquiry." The Emperor, charmed by the man's character, his extreme naïveté and studiousness, said, *When shall I hear you?* And Aristides replied, "Suggest a subject to-day and hear me to-morrow ; for I am not of those who 'throw up' what is in their minds but of those who speak with precision. But grant, O King, that my pupils also may be present at the hearing." *Certainly*, said Marcus, *they may, for it is free to all.* And on Aristides saying, "Permit them, O King, to cheer and applaud as loud as they can," the Emperor smiling said, *That depends on yourself.*

(17)

On his return to Rome, when, in addressing the people, he mentioned among other things that he had been absent many years, they shouted "Eight,"¹ and signified this besides with their fingers, of course that they might get so many pieces of gold for a congiarium. The Emperor smiled, and himself said, *Yes, eight*, and afterwards distributed 200 drachmas² apiece, a larger sum than they had ever received before.

(18)

Marcus even begged of the Senate money from the public treasury, not that it was not in the ruler's

¹ From 169 to 176 A.D.

² Seven or eight pounds, the denarius aureus being = 25 silver denarii.

MARCUS AURELIUS

ὅτι ὁ Μάρκος πάντα τῆς βουλῆς καὶ τοῦ δήμου καὶ αὐτὰ καὶ τὰλλα ἔλεγεν εἶναι· “ἡμεῖς γάρ,” ἔφη πρὸς τὴν βουλὴν λέγων,¹ “οὗτοι οὐδὲν ἴδιον ἔχομεν ὅστε καὶ ἐν τῇ ὑμετέρᾳ οἰκίᾳ οἰκοῦμεν.”

(19) *Philostratus, Vit. Soph.* ii. 9, p. 24^r *Kays.*

Λουκίου τούτου κάκεῖνο θαυμάσιον. ἐσπούδαξε μὲν ὁ αὐτοκράτωρ Μάρκος περὶ Σέξτον τὸν ἐκ Βοιωτίας φιλόσοφον, θαμίζων αὐτῷ καὶ φοιτῶν ἐπὶ θύρας, ἄρτι δὲ ἥκων ἐς τὴν Ῥώμην ὁ Λούκιος ἦρετο τὸν αὐτοκράτορα προιώντα, ποι βαδίζοι καὶ ἐφ' ὅ τι, καὶ ὁ Μάρκος “καλὸν” ἔφη “καὶ γηράσκοντι τὸ μανθάνειν εἴμι δὴ πρὸς Σέξτον τὸν φιλόσοφον μαθησόμενος, ἀ οὕπω οἰδα.” καὶ ὁ Λούκιος ἔξαρας τὴν χεῖρα ἐς τὸν οὐρανόν, “Ω Ζεῦ,” ἔφη, “ὁ Ῥωμαίων βασιλεὺς γηράσκων ἡδη δέλτον ἔξαψάμενος ἐς διδασκάλου φοιτᾶ, ὃ δὲ ἐμὸς βασιλεὺς Ἀλέξανδρος δύο καὶ τριάκοντα ἑτῶν ἀπέθανεν.”²

(20) *Capit. xxviii.*

Cum aegrotare coepisset, filium³ advocavit atque ab eo primum petiit ut belli reliquias non contemneret, ne

¹ The date would be in 178, just before the Emperor's last departure for the war.

² For this anecdote *cp.* Dio, 71. 1, § 2: λέγεται καὶ αὐτοκράτωρ ἀν μὴ αἰδεῖσθαι ἐς διδασκάλου φοιτᾶν, ἀλλὰ καὶ Σέξτῳ προσιέναι τῷ ἐκ Βοιωτῶν φιλόσοφῳ καὶ ἐς ἀκρόβασιν τῶν ῥητορικῶν Ἐμρογένους λόγων μὴ δκνῆσαι παραγενέσθαι. The date is most likely 177-8, before the last departure to the war. At this time Marcus was engaged himself in giving lectures on philosophy. See Aur. Victor, *De Caes.* xvi. 9; *cp.* Vulc. Gallicanus, *Vit. Cassii*, iii. 7.

³ His son Commodus, now 19 years old. He was perhaps more weak than vicious. As a matter of fact Pompeianus and the other *amici* of Marcus persuaded Commodus to remain for six months.

THE SAYINGS OF MARCUS

power to demand it, but because Marcus said that everything, both money and all else, belonged to the Senate and the people ; for *We*, he said, speaking to the Senate *so far from having anything of our own, even live in a house that is yours.*¹

(19)

Of this Lucius² another surprising story is told. The Emperor Marcus was an eager disciple of Sextus the Boeotian philosopher,³ being often in his company and frequenting his house. Lucius, who had just come to Rome, asked the Emperor, whom he met on his way, where he was going to and on what errand, and Marcus answered, *It is good even for an old man to learn ;⁴ I am now on my way to Sextus the philosopher to learn what I do not yet know.* And Lucius, raising his hand to heaven, said, “O Zeus, the king of the Romans in his old age takes up his tablets and goes to school. But my king Alexander died before he was thirty-two.”

(20)

When he began to sicken, he sent for his son, and at first besought him not to neglect the relics of the war,⁵

¹ The Emperor, if he said these words, can hardly be acquitted of some affectation, as he had a very large fortune in his own right, inherited from his mother and also through Faustina.

² A philosopher friend of Herodes Atticus.

³ Sextus was grandson of Plutarch and a teacher of Marcus ; see Capit. iii. 2, and Marcus himself (i. 9 and note), from which we see what he learnt “in his old age.” He also “shewed off” his philosophy before Sextus ; see Themistius, *Orat.* xi. 145b.

⁴ In this he was in the good company of our own great Alfred. *cp.* also Seneca, *Ep.* 76 : tamdiu discendum est, quamdiu nescias ; Solon, *Fragm.* 8. Bergk, γηράσκων δ' αἰεὶ πολλὰ διδασκόμενος.

⁵ The parallel with our Edward II. is very close.

MARCUS AURELIUS

videretur rem publicam prodere. Et cum filius ei respondisset cupere se primum sanitatem, ut vellet permisit petens tamen ut exspectaret paucos dies, haud simul proficiseretur. Deinde abstinuit victu potuque mori cupiens auxilique morbum. Sexta die vocatis amicis et ridens res humanas, mortem autem contempnens ad amicos dixit, "Quid de me fletis et non magis de pestilentia et communi morte cogitatis?" Et cum illi vellent recedere, ingemiscens ait, "Si iam me dimittitis, vale vobis dico vos praecedens." Et cum ab eo quaereretur, cui filium commendaret, ille respondit: "Vobis, si dignus fuerit, et dis immortalibus." Septimo die gravatus est et solum filium admisit. Quem statim dimisit, ne in eum morbus transiret. Dimisso filio caput operuit quasi volens dormire sed nocte animam efflavit.

(21^a) *Dio Frigm. Dind. v. p. 206.*

'Ενόσησε σφόδρα ὁ Μάρκος, ὅστε δλίγας ἐλπίδας ἐπὶ τῆς σωτηρίας ἔχειν· καὶ πολλάκις ἐν τῇ νόσῳ ἐπεφώνει τὸ τῆς τραγῳδίας ἱαμβεῖον,

"τοιαῦτα τλήμων πόλεμος ἔξεργάζεται."¹

(21^b) *Dio 71. 33, § 4.*

Μελλων οὖν ἀποθυῆσκειν τῷ χιλιάρχῳ τὸ σύνθημα αἰτοῦντι ἔφη, "ἄπελθε πρὸς τὸν ἀνατέλλοντα, ἔγω γὰρ δύομαι."

¹ This quotation occurs again in Dio, 71. 22, but with a different application, as a sarcasm against the rise of Pertinax, a man of humble birth, to the consulship.

THE SAYINGS OF MARCUS

lest he should seem to betray the State. But when his son answered that his first care was for health, he let him do as he would, begging him however to wait a few days and not take his departure at once. Then he abstained from food and drink,¹ wishing to die, and aggravated the disease. On the sixth day he called for his friends, and mocking earthly things, but setting death at naught, he said to them, *Why weep for me and not rather think on the pestilence and the death that awaits all?* And when they made as though to retire he said, sighing, *If you now give me my dismissal, I give you my farewell and lead the way for you.* And when it was asked of him to whom he commended his son, he answered, *To you, if he be worthy, and to the immortal Gods.* On the seventh day he grew worse, and allowed only his son to be admitted, but dismissed him at once that he might not take the infection. After parting from his son he veiled his head as if he would sleep, but in the night he breathed his last.

(21^a)

When Marcus was seriously ill, so as to have little hope of recovery, he would often cry out in his illness this verse from the tragedy,

*Such is war's disastrous work.*²

(21^b)

When near his death, being asked by the tribune for the watchword, he said, *Go to the rising sun, for I am setting.*

¹ The latter is not likely. He had long been unable to take solid food; see Dio (71. 6, § 4), who says positively that he was poisoned by order of Commodus. Others say he died of the pestilence.

² Pius in the delirium of his last fever *nihil aliud quam de re publica et de regibus, quibus irascebatur, locutus est* (Capit. Vit. Pii, xii. 8). Napoleon's last words were *tête d'armée*.

NOTE ON THE ATTITUDE OF MARCUS
TOWARDS THE CHRISTIANS
WITH
HIS EDICT ADDRESSED TO THE COMMON
ASSEMBLY OF ASIA

Marcus and the Christians.

(i. 6, iii. 16, vii. 68, viii. 48, 51, xi. 3.)

NOTHING has done the good name of Marcus so much harm as his supposed uncompromising attitude towards the Christians, and in this connexion great emphasis has been laid upon a passage in the present book where the Christians, according to our accepted text, are mentioned. It will be worth while to examine this and certain other passages in the book and see if they throw any light on Marcus' real sentiments towards the Christians.

Taking xi. 3 first, we note that *παράταξις*, which is persistently translated *obstinacy* to bring it into line with Pliny's *obstinatio*, does not mean obstinacy at all, but *opposition*.¹ This is clear from the use of the word and its verb elsewhere by Marcus. In iii. 3 it is used in its primary sense of armies opposite one another on the field of battle. The only passage where the verb occurs (viii. 48) is very instructive. "Remember," he says, "that the ruling Reason shows itself unconquerable when, concentrated in itself, it is content with itself, so

¹ Since this was written I find that M. A. P. Lemercier (*Les Pensées de Marc-Aurèle*, Introd. p. viii. note 2) quotes with approval E. Havet's similar interpretation. Suidas glosses *παράταξις* with *πόλεμος ἐμπαράσκευος*.

MARCUS AURELIUS

it do nothing that it doth not will, even if it refuse from mere unreasoning opposition (*καν δλόγως παρατίξηται*).” Here the word is used in exactly the same connexion as in xi. 3, and by no means in a sense entirely condemnatory. It seems to me quite possible that the Emperor may have had the Christians in mind here as well as in xi. 3. Conduct such as that of the Christians was precisely what Marcus is never tired of recommending, viz., not under any compulsion to transgress the demands of the ruling Reason,¹ and if it were found impossible to act up to the standard of right set by the conscience (*τὸ ἔνδον ιδρύμενον*) owing to external causes, then to depart cheerfully from life. It appears to me that Marcus in both these passages is really approving of the resistance.

Again the actual mention of the Christians here requires to be considered. The word itself was taboo with the pagan stylists as a barbarism. Even when they are apparently alluding to Christians, such writers as Epictetus, Dio Chrysostom, Plutarch, Aristides, Apuleius, Dio Cassius, Philostratus, do not use the term—much as an Arnold or a Pater would hesitate to use the word “Salvationist.” We do not find it in Fronto’s extant works nor Galen’s. Lucian, however, employed it in the *Alexander* and the *Peregrinus*, if (which some deny) these works are by him. Marcus would no doubt have used the word, as Trajan, Pliny and Hadrian did, in rescripts and official documents, but it is a question whether his literary purism and the example of his favourite Epictetus would have allowed him to employ it in a Greek philosophical treatise. When we look at the clause, *ὡς οἱ Χριστιανοί*, as here inserted, we see that it is outside the construction, and in fact ungrammatical. It is in the very form of a marginal note,² and has every appearance of being a gloss foisted into the text. But even if the words be omitted, Marcus may still have had the

¹ He says (viii. 41) that ‘nothing can overbear this Reason, not steel, nor tyrant, nor obloquy.’

² I see Lemercier holds the same view.

NOTE ON CHRISTIANS

Christians in mind when he wrote the passage, which only condemns an eagerness to meet death without real justification and without due dignity.¹

There are other expressions in this book which seem to glance at a body of men who must have been often in Marcus's thoughts. For instance, when he speaks (vii. 68) of those who "can live out their lives in the utmost peace of mind, even though all the world cry out against them what they choose, and the beasts tear them limb from limb," he cannot be thinking of criminals in the ordinary sense of the word, for it is evident that innocent people are meant, and if so, what innocent people received such treatment? It is not at all impossible—I think it highly probable—that Marcus looked upon the Christians as misguided enthusiasts, who had to be punished as the law then stood,² but whom he no more than Hadrian and Pius³ wished to punish. Again (vii. 51) he quotes the indignant cry of whom but the Christians? *They kill us, they cut us limb from limb, they execrate us!* Adding the comment: *How does that prevent you from being pure, sane, sober, just?* In yet another place (iii. 16), in words that point still more conclusively to the Christians, he acknowledges that to own the Intelligence as ruler and guide to what is a clear duty is found also among "*those who do not believe in Gods, and those who will not stand by*

¹ This is not much more than what Clem. Alex. says, *Stromata*, iv. 4. There were some egregious cases of voluntary martyrdom in Spain under the Moslems (see the present writer's *Christianity and Islam in Spain*, pp. 37 ff.). See also the conduct of Callistus, afterwards Bishop of Rome. Hippolytus, *Refut. Haer.* ix. 12. Nor were philosophers exempt from the reproach of dying *iactationis causa* (see *Digest*, xxvii. 3. 6. 7).

² This was the view of Rusticus, his 'domestic philosopher.' (See *Acts of Justin Martyr*.)

³ This is clear from the joint letter of Marcus and Pius to the Larissaeans, Thessalonicans, Athenians, and all the Greeks against mob-violence towards the Christians; see Melito in Eusebius, iv. 26, § 10.

MARCUS AURELIUS

their country, and those who do their (evil) work behind closed doors." Now all these three were the stock charges against Christians, and who can doubt they are hinted at here? Lastly there is the reference to exorcism (i. 6),¹ in which Marcus says that Diognetus taught him to disbelieve.

As a matter of fact, Marcus has been condemned as a persecutor of the Christians on purely circumstantial and quite insufficient grounds. The general testimony of contemporary Christian writers is against the supposition. So is the known character of Marcus. His distinguishing characteristic, in which he excelled all recorded rulers, was humanity. His *φιλανθρωπία* is mentioned by Galen, Dio, Philostratus, Athenagoras (twice), Melito, and Aristides (eleven times); and his *humanitas* by the eminent jurist Callistratus.² As soon could Alexander have turned his back in the day of battle as Marcus shown cruelty to his subjects, however lowly. "Never," says Marcus in the eighth book of his self-communings, "have I willingly injured another," and Themistius (*Orat. 15*) records how, when penned in by his enemies in a new Caudine Forks, he raised his hands to Heaven and cried, "With this hand wherewith I have shed no blood, I appeal to Thee and beseech the Giver of life."

He had a passion for justice, and was most scrupulous in his observance of law, as Papinian, the greatest of jurists, has told us. That he should have encouraged mob-violence against unoffending persons, ordered the torture of innocent women and boys, and violated the rights of citizenship in his insensate fury, is as inconceivable as that St. Louis should have broken the Christian law or become a Mohammedan. That some Christians suffered for their religion in the reign of Marcus is most

¹ On which see note above, and *cp. Lucian, Philops.* § 16 (of Christ).

² Marcus himself in his laws repeatedly appeals to this principle. Capit. says he was noted for the mildness of his punishments, and see p. 369.

NOTE ON CHRISTIANS

probable, though there is perhaps no single martyrdom attributed to this period of which the date¹ is certain beyond cavil. That there was in any sense a general persecution of the Christians at this time is contrary to all the facts. There were numbers of them in Rome itself, with a Bishop at their head. There were actually Christians in the Emperor's household and probably (*e.g.* Apollonius) in the Senate itself. Of all these Roman Christians we only hear of Justin and his six companions being martyred, one of them being a slave of the Emperor. Other Christian slaves in the royal household survived him. If he wished to put down Christianity, why did he not begin with his own palace and with Rome?²

So far from persecuting them, we know that as subordinate ruler with Pius³ he was responsible for the letter to the Greek cities forbidding outrages against the Christians. The letter to the Common Assembly of Asia, given below, if authentic, emanated from him in conjunction with Pius or from him alone. Its genuineness in the main has been upheld by Harnack, and is certainly capable of defence.

¹ Dr. Abbott has given plausible reasons for doubting the date of the Lyons martyrdom, and some (*e.g.* Havet) deny the authenticity of the letter in Eusebius.

² The famous caricature of the Christian religion found in the pages' quarters in the Palatine (see Lanciani, *Ancient Rome* 122) dates from this reign.

³ Melito says distinctly *σοῦ τὰ συμπάντα διοικοῦντος αὐτῷ*, Euseb. iv. 26. 10 (? *πάντα συνδιοικοῦντος*).

MARCUS AURELIUS

'Αντωνίνου πρὸς τὸ Κοινὸν τῆς Ἀσίας ἐπιστολὴ (περὶ τοῦ καθ' ἡμᾶς λόγου).

(Eusebius, iv. 13 = Nicephorus iii. 28; cp. Justin.
Apol. i. *ad fin.*)

Αὐτοκράτωρ Καῖσαρ Μάρκος Αὐρήλιος Ἀντωνῖνος Σεβαστὸς [Ἀρμένιος] ἀρχιερεὺς μέγιστος, δημαρχικῆς ἔξουσίας τὸ πέμπτον καὶ τὸ δέκατον, ὑπατος τὸ τρίτον, τῷ Κοινῷ τῆς Ἀσίας χαίρειν.¹

'Εγὼ μὲν οἶδα² ὅτι καὶ τοῖς θεοῖς ἐπιμελές ἐστι μὴ λανθάνειν τοὺς τοιούτους. πολὺ γὰρ μᾶλλον ἐκεῖνοι κολάσαιεν³ ἀν τοὺς μὴ βουλομένους αὐτοὺς προσκυνεῖν ἢ ὑμεῖς. οὐδε εἰς ταραχὴν ἐμβάλλετε, βεβαιοῦντες τὴν γνώμην αὐτῶν ἥνπερ ἔχουσιν, ὡς ἀθέων κατηγοροῦντες.⁴ εἴη δ' ἀν κάκείνοις αἱρετὸν τὸ δοκεῖν κατηγορούμενοις τεθνάναι μᾶλλον ἢ ζῆν ὑπὲρ τοῦ οἰκείου θεοῦ.⁵ ὅθεν καὶ νικῶσι, προιέμενοι τὰς ἑαυτῶν ψυχάς, ἥπερ πειθόμενοι οὶς ἀξιοῦτε πράττειν αὐτούς. περὶ δὲ τῶν σεισμῶν τῶν γεγονότων καὶ γινομένων οὐκ ἀτοπὸν ὑμᾶς ὑπομνῆσαι, ἀθυμοῦντας μὲν ὅταν περ ὁσι, παραβάλλοντας δὲ⁶ τὰ ἥμέτερα πρὸς τὰ

¹ The version in Justin at the end of *Apol.* i. has the following heading: Αὐτοκ. Καῖσ. Τίτος Αἴλιος Ἀδριανὸς Ἀντων. Σεβ. Εὐσέβης, ἀρχ. μέγ., δημαρ. ἐξ., ὑπατος τὸ πδ', πατὴρ πατρίδος τὸ κα' κ.τ.λ. The dates are out of place and obviously absurd; πδ'=84 and κα'=21. Altered to κδ' and δ' respectively and placed after ἔξουσίας and ὑπατος they would give the date 161.

² φίλην Justin.

³ ἐκείνους κολάσοιεν, εἰπερ δύναντο J.

⁴ οὶς ταραχὴν ἐμβ., καὶ τὴν κατηγορεῖτε <καὶ ἔτερά τινα

ἐμβάλλετε, ἀτινα οὐ δυνάμεθα ἀποδεῖξαι> J.

⁵ These last seven words omitted J.

⁶ οὐκ εἰκὸς ὑπομνῆσαι ὑμᾶς ἀθ., δτ. π. ὁσι, παραβάλλοντας τὰ

ὑμ. κ.τ.λ. J.

¹ An unusual form for Ἀρμενιακός, a title not given till 163.

² Marcus was consul for the third time and renewed his

NOTE ON CHRISTIANS

*Letter of Antoninus to the Common Assembly of Asia
(about our religion).*

The Emperor Caesar Marcus Aurelius Antoninus Augustus [Armenius¹] Pontifex Maximus, in the fifteenth year of his Tribune, Consul for the third time,² to the Common Assembly of Asia greeting.

I am confident³ that the Gods also look to it that such persons should not escape detection. For it is much more their concern than yours to punish those who refuse to worship them. But you harass these men,⁴ and harden them in their conviction, to which they hold fast, by accusing them of being atheists. For indeed they would rather be thought to be accused and die for their own God than live. Consequently they even come off victorious, giving up their lives rather than comply with your demands. And with respect to the past and present earthquakes⁵ it is not amiss to remind you of them, despondent as you are whenever they occur and yet for ever contrasting your belief and conduct with theirs.

Trib. pot. for the fifteenth time in 161, in which year he became emperor on 7 March and within a few days associated Lucius Verus in the empire with himself.

³ The beginning of the rescript is apparently lost. *cp.* for the opening words the *deorum iniuriae dis curae* of Tacitus.

⁴ The Justin text says "charge them with disorder," and adds "and bring other charges against them which we cannot prove."

⁵ There were several earthquakes in Asia Minor between 138 and 180, Rhodes, Smyrna, and Cyzicus being destroyed, but the dates are not accurately settled. There was certainly one at Smyrna about 177, but that is too late. There was one at least in the reign of Pius, and the one here mentioned is supposed by some to have occurred about 152, but I think it may possibly be identified with one by which Cyzicus was chiefly affected; see Fronto, *Ad Ant.* 2 (A.D. 162).

MARCUS AURELIUS

έκεινων. οἱ μὲν οὖν εὐπαρρησιαστότεροι γίνονται πρὸς τὸν θεόν, ὑμεῖς δὲ¹ παρὰ πάντα τὸν χρόνον καθ' ὃν ἀγνοεῖν δοκεῖτε, τῶν τε θεῶν (καὶ) τῶν ἄλλων ἀμελεῖτε, καὶ τῆς θρησκείας τῆς περὶ τὸν ἀθάνατον, ὃν δὴ τοὺς Χριστιανοὺς θρησκεύοντας ἐλαύνετε καὶ διώκετε ἔως θανάτου².

'Υπὲρ δὲ τῶν τοιούτων, ηδη καὶ πολλοὶ³ τῶν περὶ τῆς ἐπαρχίας ἡγεμόνων καὶ τῷ θειοτάτῳ ὑμῶν ἔγραψαν πατρί· οἷς καὶ ἀντέγραψε μηδὲν ἐνοχλεῖν τοῖς τοιούτοις, εἰ μὴ φαίνουστό τι περὶ⁴ τὴν τῶν Ῥωμαίων ἡγεμονίαν ἐγχειροῦντες. καὶ ἐμοὶ δὲ περὶ τῶν τοιούτων πολλοὶ ἐσήμαναν, οἷς δὴ καὶ ἀντέγραψα κατακολουθῶν τῇ τοῦ πατρὸς γνώμῃ. εἰ δέ τις ἐπιμένοι τινὰ τῶν τοιούτων εἰς πράγματα φέρων ὡς δὴ τοιοῦτον,⁵ ἐκεῖνος ὁ καταφερόμενος ἀπολελύσθω τοῦ ἐγκλήματος καὶ ἐὰν φαίνηται τοιοῦτος ὅν, ὃ δὲ καταφέρων ἔνοχος ἔσται δίκης.⁶

προετέθη ἐν Ἐφέσῳ ἐν τῷ Κοινῷ τῆς Ἀσίας.

¹ Here Harnack supplies δτι.

² δτι εὐπαρ. ὑμῶν γίν. τὸν πρὸς θεόν. καὶ ὑμεῖς μὲν ἀγν. δοκεῖτε παρ' ἐκείνον τ. χρ. τοὺς θεούς, καὶ τῶν Ἱερῶν ἀμ., θρησκ. δὲ τὴν π. τὸν θεὸν ὄνκι ἐπίστασθε. θεούς καὶ τοὺς θρησκεύοντας ἐζήλωσατε καὶ διώκ. ἔως θ. J.

³ καὶ ἄλλοι τινὲς without ηδη J.

⁴ ἐπὶ J.

⁵ εἰ δέ τις ἔχει πρὸς τινὰ τῶν τοι. πράγμα καταφέρειν J.

⁶ The parts underlined are those which Harnack (*Texte und Untersuch. z. Gesch. der Alt-Christ. Liter. xiii.*) considers portions of the genuine edict. Eusebius places it under the reign of Pius, though he gives the superscription as above. The version in Justin seems to be an "improved" form of the text, making it clearer and more emphatic. It is not known whether the rescript was originally in Greek or Latin, but almost certainly it was in the former.

NOTE ON CHRISTIANS

They indeed show the more outspoken confidence in their God, while you during the whole time of your apparent ignorance both neglect all the other Gods and the worship of the Ever-living One,¹ whose worshippers, the Christians, you in fact harass and persecute to the death.

And on behalf of such persons many Governors also of provinces have before now both written to our deified father, whose answer in fact was not to molest such persons unless they were shewn to be making some attempt in respect to the Roman Government,² and to me also many³ have given information about such men, to whom indeed I also replied in accordance with my father's view. And if any one persist in bringing any such person into trouble for being what he is, let him, against whom the charge is brought, be acquitted even if the charge be made out, but let him who brings the charge be called to account.⁴

Published at Ephesus in the Common Assembly of Asia.

¹ Harnack thinks Δία should be supplied and for the following five words substitutes ἐκεῖνος δέ.

² If this edict is by Pius, we should expect to find some such injunction in his "deified father" Hadrian's edict about the Christians (see Euseb. iv. 9), but there is none. On the other hand it may have been in the edict of Pius "to all the Greeks" mentioned by Melito (Euseb. iv. 10).

³ This is the one word in the document which does not seem consistent with the date 161, when Marcus had only just become emperor.

⁴ This portion of the edict seems too favourable to the Christians for even Marcus to have promulgated.

INDEXES

I.—INDEX OF MATTERS

References are to Book and Section of the "Thoughts," and to pages in the rest of the book.

- Acuteness (*δριμύτης*), v. 5; vi. 47
Aim, or objective, or goal in life (*σκοπός q.v.*), II. 16; VIII. 1, 17; X. 37; XII. 20, 24
Aimlessness, II. 5, 7, 16, 17; III. 4, § 2; IV. 2
Amphitheatre, and games, I. 5; VI. 46; X. 8; XII. 9
Analysis of things, essential, III. 11; VI. 3; VII. 29; VIII. 11; XI. 2; XII. 10, 18
Anger, I. 9, § 3; II. 1, 10, 16; at what happens, VII. 38*; VIII. 17; XI. 18, §§ 3, 8, 10
Apathy (*ἀπάθεια*) of Stoics, XI. 18, § 10; *cp. ἀταραξία*
Architect, VI. 35
Arethas, a Cappadocian bishop about 900 A.D.; quotes Marcus, on Lucian, *Pisc.* 26 (=VI. 47 *Μένιππος*); *De Salt.* 63, *Δημήτριον τὸν Κυνικὸν* (=VIII. 25 *Δημήτριος ὁ Πλατωνικός*); *Pro Imagg.* 1 (VIII. 37, *Πάνθεια*); on Dio Chrysostom, *Orat.* xx. 8 (=IV. 3 *εἰς ἐαυτὸν ἀναχωρεῖν*); *Orat.* xxxii. 15 (=II. 3 *πάντα ἐκεῖθεν ἔρει*)
Aristides, 373, quoted on flyleaf, etc.
Art, XI. 10; cherish thine own, IV. 31; love of, V 1, § 2; object of, VI. 16; lower than Nature, XI. 10
Astonishment at what happens is ridiculous, VIII. 15; XII. 1, § 2, 13
Astrologers (Chaldaeans), III. 3; IV. 48
Attraction or affinity (*συμπάθεια*), IV. 27; V. 26; IX. 9, § 3
Atoms or God, IV. 3, § 2; VII. 31, 50; VIII. 17; IX. 28, 39; X. 6; XI. 18, § 1
Avarice, 373
Avoidance not aversion, VI. 20
Axioms, principles, postulates, maxims (*δόγματα*), IV. 16; VII. 2; VIII. 1, 14; IX. 29; holy, X. 9, 34
Barbarian auxiliaries, 371
Bassaeus Rufus, *praef. praet.*, 367
Bathing, I. 16, § 7; VIII. 24
"Bear and Forbear" (*ἀνέχου ἀπέχου*), V. 33; *cp. IV. 3, § 2* (forbearance a part of justice); VIII. 59
Beautiful, the, II. 1
Beauty in natural things, II. 1; in youth, III. 2, § 2
Benetianus, *see* Venetianus
Black character, a, IV. 18, 28
Blessings, thankfulness for, VII. 27
Boar, wild, III. 2, § 1; X. 10
Body, vessel or sheath of soul, III. 3, § 2; IV. 41; IX. 3; X. 38; XI. 1, 2, 3; the inferior partner, XI. 19
Bodies of dead, how room for, IV. 21
Bodily desires, VII. 55, § 2, etc.
Books, II. 2, 3; reading or writing of, I. 7; III. 14; VIII. 8; XI. 29
Bread, simile from, III. 2, § 1
Breath (*see πνεῦμα, πνευμάτων*), II. 2; VIII. 25, 56; XI. 3; XII. 20
Breathing through the arteries (*διαπνεισθαι*), an ancient medical notion, III. 1; VI. 16

INDEX OF MATTERS

- Brigandage, **X.** 10; **XI.** 18, § 7
Burials in bodies of animals, **IV.** 21
 § 2
- Cassius, Avidius, 348 ff., 371
"Caesarification," **VI.** 30
Cause (*aitia, aitios, τὸ αἰτιῶδες*), the
 Final, Formal, or Efficient, **V.** 8;
 VII. 10; **IX.** 25, 37; in man, **VIII.** 7;
 IX. 31; **X.** 26; in God or Nature,
 IX. 1, 29
- Causal and material, **IV.** 21, § 3;
 V. 18; **VII.** 29; **VIII.** 11; **IX.** 25,
 37; **XII.** 10, 18, 29
- Causation, **XII.** 8
- Chance, **I.** 17 *ad. fin.*; **II.** 3, 17; **III.**
 11; **IX.** 28; **XII.** 14, 24
- Change, **II.** 7; **IV.** 3, 36; **VI.** 36;
 VII. 18, 23, 25; **VIII.** 6; **IX.** 19,
 28; **X.** 7, § 1, 11, 18; **XII.** 21;
cycles of, **V.** 13; **X.** 7, § 2; **XI.** 1,
 § 2; of mind, **IV.** 12; **VIII.** 10, 16
- Chaos (*see Medley*), **IV.** 27; **VI.** 10;
 IX. 39; **XII.** 14
- Character, the perfect, **VII.** 69;
portrayed, **I.** 16; **VI.** 30, § 2;
cp. **I.** 15
- Charity (*see Love of neighbour*),
 II. 13; **VI.** 47; **IX.** 42; **X.** 36, § 2;
 XI. 1
- Cheerfulness, **I.** 15, 16, § 2; **III.** 5;
 X. 12
- Children, **VII.** 41*; **VIII.** 49; **IX.** 40;
 X. 34, 35; **XI.** 34*; loss of, **I.** 8
note; illness of, **VIII.** 49; safety of,
 X. 35; Marcus' own, **I.** 17, § 4;
his fondness for, **I.** 13
- Christians, **I.** 6; **III.** 16; **VII.** 68;
 VIII. 48, 51, § 2; **XI.** 3 (here only
mentioned and this probably a
gloss). *See pp.* 381 ff.
- Circus, **I.** 5; **X.** 38
- Cities destroyed by natural disasters, **IV.** 48; pp. 373, 387
- Coarseness (*ut Stoicus, nulla habet
tacenda*), **V.** 12, 28; **VI.** 13; **VIII.**
 21 (MS); **X.** 19
- Colloquialism, in the mason's trade,
 V. 8, § 1; a "visitation from
Heaven," **V.** 8, § 1; loves = is
wont, **X.** 21; use of *pōphēs*, **II.** 17
- Commodus, 354 ff.
- Concilium of Emperor, 362
- Concubine (of Verus or Hadrian),
 I. 17, § 2; of Lucius Verus, **VIII.** 37
- Conditional action, **IV.** 1; **V.** 20;
 VI. 50
- Congiaria, **I.** 16, § 7, pp. 365, 375
- Contentment, **III.** 4, § 4, 12; **IV.** 25;
 V. 8, § 2, 27; **VII.** 54, 57; **VIII.**
 46; **X.** 1, 6, § 2, 11, 28; **XI.** 18, 20,
 § 2; **XII.** 1, 3
- Cosmopolitanism, a Stoic doctrine,
see World-city
- Country retreats, **IV.** 3; **X.** 1; **XII.** 27
- Court etiquette, **I.** 16, § 2
- Court life, **I.** 17, § 2; **IV.** 3; **V.** 16;
 VI. 12; **VIII.** 9
- Craze or hobby, **V.** 1; **XII.** 27
- Customs' officer, **I.** 17, § 8
- Cycles, *see Regeneration*
- Daemon (*see δαιμων*, and Genius.)
- Dancing, **V.** 1; **VII.** 61; **XI.** 1, 2
- Death, **II.** 2, 17; **III.** 3, 7; **IV.** 5, 6,
 32, 48, 50; **V.** 33; **VI.** 2, 28, 46;
 VII. 32; **VIII.** 25, 31, 58; **IX.**
 21; **X.** 11, 29; no evil, **XII.**
 23; to be despised, **XII.** 31, 35;
a process of Nature, **II.** 12;
 IX. 3; **X.** 36, § 2; our death
desired, **X.** 36; the leveller, **VI.**
 24; a λύσις τῶν στοιχείων, **II.** 17
- Dead, generations of the, **VI.** 47
- Dependence of things on one another, **V.** 16, 30
- Destiny, **III.** 6, 8, 11, § 3; **IV.** 26, 34;
 V. 8, 24; **XII.** 14
- Dialectics, **I.** 17, § 8; **VII.** 67; **VIII.**
 13
- Dio Chrysostom, *see Arethas*; Dio
Cassius, *see notes I.* 5, 6, 7; **III.** 12;
 IV. 26; **VII.** 7; **IX.** 42, § 2; **X.** 6;
 XI. 21
- Discontent, murmuring, rebellion
against our lot, **II.** 2, 3, 13, 16;
 IV. 3, 32; **VI.** 49; **VII.** 64; **IX.** 37;
 X. 3; **XI.** 20
- Dispersion, **VI.** 4, 10; **VII.** 32, 50;
 VIII. 25; **IX.** 39; **X.** 7, § 2; **XI.** 3
- Dissolution, **II.** 17 *ad. fin.*; **IV.** 21;
 VII. 50; **IX.** 32; **X.** 7; **XI.** 20;
 XII. 36
- Divine, the, in man, *see God*
- Doctors, **III.** 3, 13; **IV.** 48;
 VI. 35, 55; **VIII.** 15; Aesculapius
as prescriber, **V.** 8
- Dotage, **III.** 1
- Drama, the, **III.** 8; **VII.** 3; **IX.** 24;
 X. 27; **XI.** 1, 6; **XII.** 36

INDEX OF MATTERS

- Dreams, I. 17, § 8; IX. 27
 Duty, III. 1, 16 (of the Christians); VI. 2, 22, 26, 30
- Earth, smallness of, III. 10; IV. 3, § 3; VIII. 21; XII. 32
 "Economy" (*oikonomia, q.v.*), IV. 19, 51; XI. 18, § 5
 Elements the, IV. 4, 46; VII. 31; IX. 9; X. 7, §§ 2, 3
 Emerald, IV. 20; VII. 15
 Emperor, a private person, I. 17, § 3; fire carried before him, I. 17, § 3, p. 367
 Enfranchisement of slaves, 360, 363
 Evil, not recognized as such, II. 1, 13; inevitable, IV. 6; V. 17; and God, II. 11; What is evil to a man, II. 11; falls on all alike, II. 11; not interminable, IX. 35; surprise at, IX. 42, § 4, etc.
 Evolution, IV. 45; IX. 28
 Excerpts from books, III. 14
 Exorcism, I. 6
 External things, cannot harm us, II. 11; IV. 3 ad. fin., 8, 39, 49; VII. 64; VIII. 1 ad. fin., 51; IX. 31; to be despised, VI. 16, § 3
 Extinction of soul, V. 33; VII. 32; VIII. 25; IX. 3; XII. 5
- Failure, VI. 11; X. 12; not to be taken to heart, V. 9
 Faith, V. 33, pp. 349, 351
 Falernian wine, VI. 13
 Fame, II. 17; III. 10; IV. 3, § 3, 19, 33; V. 33; VI. 16, § 2, 18; VII. 6, 34; VIII. 1, 21, 37, 44; IX. 30, etc.; cp. 356
 Fate, *see* Destiny
 Fellowship of men (*koinonia, etc.*), II. 1; III. 4, § 3, 11; IV. 4, 33; V. 16; VI. 7, 14, 23, 39; VII. 5, 13, 55, § 1; VIII. 12, 26, 59; IX. 1, 23, 31, 42, § 5; X. 36; XII. 20.
See also Love of neighbour
 Figs, III. 2; IV. 6; VI. 14; VIII. 15; X. 8; XII. 16; not to be looked for in winter, XI. 33
 Fine writing, I. 7; III. 5
 Fire, IV. 1; VIII. 41; IX. 9; X. 31, 33
 Flesh, the, II. 2; V. 26; VI. 28; VII. 66; VIII. 56; IX. 41*; X. 8, 24; XII. 14
 Flux of things (*see also* under Heraclitus), II. 17; IV. 8 ad. fin. 36; V. 10, § 2; VI. 15; VII. 19
 Forbearance, IV. 3, § 2; V. 33
 Fortune, II. 3; good, IV. 49, § 2; V. 36, § 2
 Friends, I. 17, § 1; favours from, I. 8; consideration for, I. 9; love of, I. 14; virtues of, VI. 48; candid, I. 13; help of, 362, 363
 Fronto, *see notes*, I. 7, 8, 11, 16, § 2, §§ 6, 7, 8; III. 14, § 2; V. 1, 5, 6, § 1; VI. 39, 46; VII. 22; VIII. 30, 48
- Galen, 360
 Games, *see* Spectacles
 Gardeners, saying of, XI. 8
 Generation and growth, X. 26
 Genius (*daimon*), divine in man, II. 10, 13, 17; III. 3, § 2; 6, 7, 12, 16, § 2; V. 27; VIII. 45; X. 13
 Getting up in the morning, II. 1; V. 1; VIII. 12
 Gladiators, I. 5; XII. 9
 Glory, *see* Fame
 Goal in life, *see* Aim
 God or Gods, I. 17, §§ 1, 5; II. 4, 5; existence of, II. 11; XII. 28; priest of, III. 4, § 3; and Chance, III. 11, § 2; and Atoms, VIII. 17; IX. 28, 39; follow God, III. 9, 16, § 2; X. 11; XII. 27, 31; do they take thought for man? VI. 44; IX. 40; One, VII. 9; art of, VII. 68; in Nature, IX. 1; immanent in all things, VII. 9; VIII. 54; in us, II. 1, 4; III. 5, 6, § 2; XI. 19; XII. 1, § 2, 2, 26; walk with, V. 27; reverence, V. 33; VI. 30; call on, VI. 23, 30, § 1; impartial, VII. 70; Sun and all the Gods, VIII. 19; not powerless, IX. 40; likeness with, X. 8, § 2; service of, III. 4; XI. 20, § 2; allows the good to perish, XII. 5; reasoning with, XII. 5; do no-wrong, XII. 12; men God-borne, XII. 23; all from God, XII. 26; man, fellow citizen of, X. 1; omnipotent, 349; judge of sovereignty, 366
 Good, the, V. 15; fountain of, in us, VII. 59
 Good and evil, VI. 41
 Good man, a, IV. 10, 17, 25; X. 8, 16, 32; vocation, to be, XI. 5

INDEX OF MATTERS

- Good men, perish at death, XII. 5
 Goodness betrays itself, XI. 15
 Growth, X. 7, § 3
- Handicraftsmen, zeal of, v. 1, § 2; VI. 35
 Happiness, v. 9, 34; VII. 17, 67; VIII. 1; X. 33
 Harmony of nature, VI. 11
 Headache, I. 16, § 7
 Help to be welcomed, VII. 5, 7, 12
 Herodes, 366
 "Heroics," I. 16, § 2; IX. 29; XI. 3
 History of ancient times, III. 14
 Horse-racing, I. 5
 Hosts of Heaven, XI. 27
 Hypocrisy, II. 16
- Ill-omened words, XI. 34 (Epic-tetus)
 Imagination or opinion or impressions (*ὑπόληψις, φαντασία*), II. 15; IV. 3, 7; V. 2, 26; VII. 17, 29; VIII. 40; IX. 7, 13, 21, 32, 42, § 2; XI. 18, § 7; XII. 1, 8, 22, 25, 26
 Immortality (*see* Extinction), XII. 31. Marcus has no clear view of the future of the soul, whether there is another life or (he merely puts the alternative) unconsciousness, III. 3, or a different sort of consciousness, VIII. 58; or extinction, VII. 32; or a change of abode, survival for a time, and finally re-absorption into the seminal principles of the universe, IV. 21; v. 33. But he longs to believe in it, *see* XII. 5
 Impiety, IX. 1
 Impressions (*φαντασία*), V. 2, 16, 36; VI. 16, 36; VII. 29; VIII. 29, 47, 49; certainty of, VII. 54; IX. 6
 Indifferent things, II. 11 *ad. fin.*; IV. 39; VI. 32, 41; IX. 1, § 4; XI. 16; even man is "indifferent," v. 20
 Ingratitude, IX. 42, § 4
 Inhumanity, VII. 65
 Injustice, IX. 1, 4
 Instruction, XI. 29; education, VI. 16
- Intelligence, the, IV. 4; V. 27; X. 33, § 3; XII. 14; one, IV. 40; = Nature = God, VIII. 54; XII. 26; of Universe, V. 30
 Interdependence of all things, II. 3, 9; IV. 29; V. 8, 30; VI. 38, 42, 43; VII. 9, 19, 68 *ad. fin.*; VIII. 7; IX. 1; X. 1
 Interests of whole and part identical, IV. 28; V. 8; VI. 44, 45, 54; X. 6, 20, 33; XII. 23
 Intolerance, VI. 27
- Jews, 351, 371
 Justice, V. 34, etc.; foundation of virtue, XI. 10; XII. 1, 3, 24; and truth, XII. 3, 29
 Justin Martyr, remarkable parallels with passages in his *Apologies*, *Apol.* I. 18, 57 = III. 3, § 2; *Apol.* I. 57 = VIII. 58; *Apol.* I. 46 = VIII. 3; *Apol.* I. 19 = X. 26
- Kindness irresistible, XI. 18, § 9
 Knowledge, the true, V. 32
- Lamiae, lit. Vampires or Ghouls, used by Socrates in the sense of "bugbears" (*μορμολυκεία*, Epict.), XI. 23
 Latinisms, ἵν' οὐτως εἰπω, IV. 48; στιγμάτα, VII. 3; I. 5, Πρασιάνος, etc.; I. 16, § 4, οὐεράκλος
 Law, X. 25, 38, *ad fin.*; XI. 1, § 2; XII. 1; one, VII. 9; "all by law," VII. 31; same for God and man, VIII. 2; equality of, I. 14
 Left hand, let not, know what right hand does, V. 6, § 2; IX. 29
 Letter-writing, I. 7, 12
 Liar, XI. 1, § 2
 Life, a warfare, II. 17; ephemeral, II. 4, 17; III. 10, 14; IV. 17, 35, 48, § 2, 50; VI. 15, 36, 56; IX. 32; X. 31, 34; XI. 18, § 6; XII. 7; the same, long or short, IV. 47; XII. 36; what is, VII. 3, 48; always the same, IV. 32; life of past ages, IV. 32, 33; VI. 36; VII. 49; IX. 14; XI. 1, § 2; variety of, XII. 24; only in present, II. 14; III. 10; XII. 1, 3; ever passing, II. 12, 17; IV. 43; V. 23;

INDEX OF MATTERS

base love of, IV. 50; a drama, XI. 1, 6; XII. 36; goal or aim of, II. 16; VII. 58; VIII. 1; XI. 21; the new life, VII. 2, § 2; X. 8; as a whole, VIII. 36; another life, III. 3; how to enjoy, XI. 29
Limb dismembered, VIII. 34
Lion, III. 2, § 1; VI. 36, § 2
Lollius Urbicus, 347
Love of neighbour, VII. 22, 31; IX. 11; X. 36, § 2; XI. 1, 9
Love or spare your enemies, VI. 6; VII. 22, 65
Lucius, a philosopher, 377
Lust, II. 10; IX. 40

Man, tripartite (body, soul, mind), II. 2; III. 16; VI. 32; XII. 3; intolerable, V. 10; VIII. 24; his work, VIII. 26; his relationships (*σχέσεις*), VIII. 27; what like, X. 19; be one, XI. 18, § 10; true interest of, III. 7; reason of = God, XII. 26
Many things, do not, IV. 24 (Democritus)
Marcus, simple life, I. 3, 6; taught at home, I. 4; dislike of the "Games," I. 5; not superstitious, I. 6; a devout worshipper, XII. 28; writes dialogues, I. 6; learns humility, I. 7; eschews poetry, rhetoric, and fine writing I. 7, 17, *cp.* p. 346; reads Epicurus, I. 7; learns toleration, I. 9; tact, I. 10; love of his children, I. 13, 17; reads Stoic writers, I. 14; gratitude of, I. 17; disposition to do evil, I. 17, § 1; XI. 18, § 4; annoyed with Rusticus, I. 17, § 6; chastity of, I. 17, § 2; love of mother, I. 17, § 6; of his wife, I. 17, § 7; spits blood and has vertigo, I. 17, § 8; bodily weakness of, I. 17, § 6, p. 351; amatory passions of, I. 17, § 6; benefactions of, I. 17, § 7; eschews dialectics, I. 17, § 8; not skilled in them, VII. 67; VIII. 1; and physics, I. 17, § 8; not skilled in them, VII. 67; grows old, II. 2, 6; V. 31; *see* p. 349; thirst for books, II. 3; address to soul, II.

6; IX. 39; X. 1; does not reject pity, II. 13; at Carnuntum, II. 17 *ad. fin.*; on the Gran, I. 17, *ad. fin.*; a Roman, II. 5; III. 5; VI. 44; a ruler, III. 5; a bull over the herd, XI. 18, § 1; his memoranda, III. 14; excerpts from books, III. 14; (?) history of ancient Greeks and Romans, III. 14; longing for country retreats, IV. 3, *cp.* X. 1; dislikes rising in the morning, V. 1; VIII. 12; not sharp-witted, V. 5; VII. 67; hardly able to endure himself, V. 10; his service ended, V. 31; the court his stepmother, VI. 12; his name Antoninus, VI. 26, § 4; not Caesarified, VI. 30; conscious of failure, II. 4, 6; V. 9, X. 8; still far from philosophy, VIII. 1; life at court against it, VIII. 1, 9, but *cp.* XI. 7; no time for study, VIII. 8; death of his mother, I. 17, § 7; VIII. 25; has never injured anyone, VIII. 42; ? birth of a child, IX. 3; ? his child ill, VIII. 49, IX. 40; weary of life and seems to wish for death, IX. 3; recalls his past life, IX. 21; playing the philosopher, IX. 29; contemns ingratitude, IX. 42, § 4; captures Sarmatians, X. 10; feels that his death is desired, X. 36; condemns Christian martyrdoms, XI. 3; his life demands philosophy, XI. 7; wonders why men value others good opinion more than their own, XII. 4; gruesome sights in war, VIII. 34; pestilence, IX. 2; Marcus a man intensely eager for the common weal, XI. 13; his patrimony, 360; regret at adoption by Hadrian, 360; evils of sovereignty, 360; resists popular clamour, 362; firmness of, 364; weeps, 368, 373; true to philosophy, 368; lenity, 368; free from bloodguiltiness, 368; detested avarice, 373; goes to lectures of Sextus, 377; death, 376 ff.

Material and causal, *see* Causal
Medley of things (*κυκεών, φυρμός*), IV. 27, VI. 10; XII. 14

INDEX OF MATTERS

- Members, all are, of the whole body,** VII. 13; XI. 8
Meteorology, I. 17, § 8
Mind, a citadel, VIII. 48
Minister of the Gods, III. 4, § 3
Miracles, I. 6
Misfortune, no evil, IV. 49, § 2, etc.
Mouse, fable of, XI. 22
Mountain, live as on a, X. 15, 23
Muses, the, XI. 18, § 11; leader of, *ibid.*
- Nature, life according to,** I. 9, 17, § 5; II. 9; IV. 39, 48, 51; V. 3, 9; VI. 40, 58; VIII. 1; of the Universe, II. 3, 11; IV. 9; VII. 75; VIII. 6, 50; IX. 1, § 4; X. 20; XII. 23, 26; way of, II. 17; what it sends, V. 8, § 2; grumbling is contrary to, II. 16; source of everything, V. 18; of plants and man, VIII. 7; = Truth, IX. 1, § 2; of living and of rational creatures, X. 2; only sends what we can bear, V. 18; VIII. 46; X. 3; resignation to, X. 14; above art, XI. 10; its products beautiful, III. 2; VI. 36; has no waste, VIII. 50; the most venerable of deities, IX. 1
- Natural affection, wanting in the Patricians,** I. 11
- Necessity,** II. 3; XII. 14, *see* Destiny
- Neighbours, fellowship with (see Fellowship),** II. 1; III. 4; V. 16; conduct towards, V. 31; IX. 3, § 2, 27; love of, X. 36, § 2 (*see* Love of neighbour); kindness towards, XI. 18, § 9; duty to, III. 11, § 3
- Objective (see Aim),** XII. 8, 10, 18, 20
- Objective or external things do not touch us,** IV. 3, etc.
- Obsolete words and persons,** IV. 33
- Olives,** III. 2, § 1; IV. 48; VI. 14
- Opinion (see also Imagination, Impressions),** nothing exists but, II. 15; III. 9; IV. 3, § 4, 7; VI. 52; VII. 14; VIII. 40, 49; X. 3; XI. 18, § 7; XII. 1, 8, 22, 25; harm rests only on, IV. 3, § 4; VII. 14, 29;
- IX. 7; away with it, XII. 25; of the many, XI. 23
- Order,** XII. 14; and chaos, IV. 27; VI. 10
- Others' thoughts,** III. 4; IV. 18
- Organic and inorganic unity,** VI. 14
- Out of sight, out of mind,** IV. 33
- Paiderasty,** I. 16, § 1; III. 16; V. 10, § 1; VI. 34
- Pain,** II. 16; VII. 33, 64; VIII. 28
- Pancratium,** XI. 2; XII. 9. *See also* wrestling
- Parmularius** (from *parma*, a small Thracian target or shield), one of a class of gladiators, I. 5
- Patricians,** want natural affection, I. 11
- Peitholaus,** a physician, 362
- Pessimism blamed,** V. 10, 33; VI. 12; VIII. 24; IX. 3, § 2; IX. 35; XI. 36
- Plague,** IX. 2
- Philosophy,** I. 6, 17, § 8; II. 17; IV. 30; VI. 12; VIII. 1; IX. 29, 41; XI. 7; the one thing, II. 17; as schoolmaster, V. 9; heads of, XI. 18; philosopher, IV. 30; the true ones, I. 16, § 5
- Physics,** VII. 67; VIII. 13; IX. 41 (Epicurus); X. 9, 31, § 2
- Pity,** II. 13, *see* p. xiii.
- Pleasure,** V. 1, 9; and pain, II. 16, etc.
- Plot of ground, a man's own = his inner self,** IV. 3; X. 23
- Plural (2nd person), used generically,** XI. 6
- Poetry,** I. 17, § 4
- Pompeianus,** 352
- Popular applause (see Fame)** I. 16, § 3; VI. 16, § 2
- Posterity (see Fame),** VI. 18
- Praise,** IV. 20; from what sort of men, III. 4, § 4; VII. 62; VIII. 53; IX. 18, 27, 34; X. 13; XI. 18, § 4
- Prayer,** VI. 44; IX. 40; of the Athenians, V. 7
- Present Time only ours,** II. 14; III. 10; XII. 1, 3, 26. *See* Time
- Principles,** *see* Axioms
- Proverbs,** "his destiny no man can escape" (women's proverb, from Plato), VII. 46; "to the sweating state," I. 16, § 9; "the last of his

INDEX OF MATTERS

- race," VIII. 31; "to be of one bush but not of one mind," (?gardener's proverb), XI. 8; "the second best course," IX. 2
 Providence, II. 3; IV. 3, § 2, 40; VI. 10, 44; IX. 28; XII. 14, 24
 Puppets or marionettes, men like, II. 2; III. 16; VI. 16; 28; VII. 29, XII. 19; in good sense, X. 38
Quails, I. 6
Quintilii, the, 373
Radiation of light, VIII. 57
Reading—*see Books*
Reason, the ruling (*τὸ διανοητικόν*), II. 2; IV. 1, 38, 39; V. 3, 11; VI. 8; VII. 5, 16, 17, 28, 33; VIII. 43, 48, 61; IX. 15, 22; XII. 14; emanates from God, II. 1, 4; V. 27; IX. 8; XII. 26, 30; the reason, IV. 4, 13; VII. 9; IX. 10; X. 24; to follow, I. 8; the seminal, or generative, IV. 14, 21; VI. 24; reverence for, IV. 16; civic, IV. 29; art of, V. 14; VIII. 40; shared with the Gods, VII. 53; stands aloof, V. 26; of others, VII. 55; right reason, XII. 35; master in its own house, VIII. 56; our noblest part, V. 21; VI. 16; X. 13; how used by us, V. 11; X. 24; XII. 33; to be safeguarded, XI. 19; of Universe, III. 3, V. 8, § 5; VI. 36, § 2; VII. 10, XII. 26; all rational things akin, III. 4, § 4
Regeneration of things, periodic (*παλιγγενεσία*), VII. 19; IX. 1, § 4, 28, § 2; XI. 1, § 2. *See also Heraclitus*
Repentance and regret, V. 9, 36; VIII. 10, 47; XI. 19
Reservation, under, or conditionally IV. 1, 51; VI. 50; XI. 37
Revenge, the best, VI. 6
Rhetoric, I. 7, 17, § 4; rhetorician's lectures, p. 375
River of change, *see also Heraclitus*
Roman, to think as, II. 5; act as, III. 5; ancient Romans, III. 14
Royal conduct, VII. 36
Runaway slaves, X. 25
Salvation, how gained, XII. 29
Sameness in life and world, II. 14; IV. 32, 33; VII. 1, 49; VIII. 6; XI. 1; XII. 24
Sanctity (*σωτηρία*), V. 9; XI. 20, § 2; XII. 1
Schools, public, I. 4
Scowling face, VII. 24
Scutarius, a gladiator with a large Samnite shield (*scutum*), I. 5
Self, retirement into, IV. 3, §§ 1, 4; VII. 28, 33, 59; VIII. 48
Senate, VIII. 30; *see also* p. 353; deference to, 376
Serene face, VI. 30; VII. 60
Sensation, bodily, V. 26, etc
Sexual intercourse, VI. 13; VIII. 21 (MS); X. 19
Similes, hands, feet, teeth, II. 1; VI. 33; signal of battle, III. 5; storming a breach, VII. 7; drama, III. 8; XII. 36; doctors, III. 13; VI. 35, 55; VIII. 15; fire, IV. 1; X. 31, § 2; incense, IV. 15; headland of rock, IV. 49; bread, figs, olives, ears of corn, lion, wild boar, III. 2; spider, V. 1; X. 10; bee, V. 1; VI. 54; X. 8; XI. 18; vine, V. 6, § 1, etc; masons, V. 8; sore eyes, V. 9; children's quarrels, V. 33; IX. 24; flow of river, V. 23; VII. 19; IX. 29 (*see Heraclitus*); snapping terriers, V. 33; pet dogs, VII. 3; fish-ponds, VII. 3; ants, V. 1; VII. 3; mice, VII. 3; XI. 22; strong smell, V. 28; XI. 15; harmony, VI. 11; ball-play, VI. 57; VIII. 20; bubble, VIII. 20; sphere, VIII. 41; cobbler and carpenter, VIII. 50; fountain, VIII. 51, § 2; amphitheatre, X. 8; pancratist, XI. 2; XII. 9; plot of ground, IV. 3; X. 23; pig sacrificed, X. 28; digestion, X. 31, § 2, 35; cylinder, X. 33, § 3; sound eye, X. 35; shuttle, pen, whip, X. 38; desertion, XI. 9, 20, § 2; riding, XII. 6; banishment, XII. 36; light, XII. 15; sands of the sea, VII. 34; mill, X. 35
Simplicity, IV. 26, 37; VII. 31; IX. 37; X. 9, § 2
Singing, XI. 2
Sleep, II. 1; IV. 46; V. 1; VI. 42
Smoke, V. 29; all things are as, X. 31; XII. 27, 33. *See also* fyleaf

INDEX OF MATTERS

- Smyrna, earthquake, 373, 387
 Social acts, *see* Fellowship
 Soul, ($\psi \nu x \eta$), one, XII. 30; when given, XII. 24; a sphere, XI. 12; of animals, IX. 9, § 2; transference after death, V. 33; extinguished, VII. 32; VIII. 5, 25; XI. 3; taken up into the primary fire, IV. 21; VI. 24; X. 7, § 2; scattered into the atoms, VII. 32; X. 7, § 2; XI. 3; its proper sphere, VI. 14; of God, V. 34; an exhalation from blood, V. 33; VI. 15;—ruling reason, her own master, V. 19, 20; existence of, after death, IV. 21; XI. 3; XII. 5; addressed, II. 6; XI. 1; attributes of, XI. 1
 Speaking, in public, V. 36; VIII. 5, 30; truthful, III. 12, 16, § 2; superfluous, III. 5; clear, VIII. 51; freedom of speech, VI. 30
 Spectacles, public, I. 16, § 7; in Sparta, XI. 24. *See also* p. 362
 Sphere, VIII. 41; XI. 12; XII. 3
 Stars, VI. 43; XI. 27
 Study, VIII. 8
 Substance, as a river, V. 23 (*see also* Heraclitus); one, XII. 30; the Universal, VI. 1; VII. 9, 19
 Suicide ($\epsilon \xi \alpha y \omega \eta$)—not used by Marcus, III. 1; V. 29; VIII. 47; IX. 2; X. 2, § 2, § 2 (*see note*), 32. The Stoics permitted suicide on the grounds of patriotism or philanthropy, poverty, incurable illness, senile decay, or when the true life could not otherwise be maintained, but Marcus only admitted the last
 Suidas (*circa* 900) quotes Marcus 29 times, and most probably refers to him without name on 30 other occasions. Half of the quotations are from the first two books, and three-quarters under the first five letters of the alphabet
 Superstition, I. 6, 16, § 3; VI. 30
 Suspense of judgment ($\alpha \tau o x \eta$), I. 16, § 9; XI. 11; *cp.* XI. 11
 Tact, I. 10
 Talkers, I. 7
 Tension ($\tau \circ v o s$), VI. 38
- Things, indifferent, II. 11; seed of other things, IV. 36; transitory, V. 10, § 1, etc.; repeat themselves, IV. 44, 45; VII. 6; truly regarded, VI. 33.
 Thoughts, mould character, V. 16; VII. 3; open to all, XII. 4; of others, III. 4, § 1; our own, III. 4, § 2
 Time, lost for ever, II. 4; abyss of, IV. 3, § 3; 50; IX. 32; XII. 7. *See Present Time*
 Tombs (or urns) watched by mourners, VIII. 37
 Tradition, IV. 46
 Tragedy (*see* Drama), I. 6, § 2; III. 7, 8; V. 29; IX. 29; XI. 3, 6; XII. 36
 Transformation (*see* Change), IV. 21; V. 13; VI. 15; IX. 19, 28
 Trials good for man, X. 33, § 4
 Truth, learn to hear the, I. 11 *note*; and error, VI. 21; “heroic” truth in every word, III. 12; has “fled to Olympus,” V. 33; is one, VII. 9; soul deprived of it involuntarily, VII. 63, etc.; identical with Nature, IX. 1, § 2; from the heart, XI. 19
 Tutor ($\tau \circ \rho \phi e \nu s$), I. 5, 17, § 4; V. 31
 Tyrants, I. 11; IV. 31; VI. 34; XII. 36, p. 357
 Tzetzes (about 1150) quotes Marcus, *Chil.* VII. 804—IV. 21; *Chil.* VII. 803, VIII. 223=V. 33, VI. 15; *Chil.* VII. 800, VIII. 224=VI. 13, IX. 3
- Unity, VI. 10; IX. 9, § 2
 Universe, a state or city, II. 16; III. 11; IV. 3, § 2, 4, 29; XII. 36; all things from it and to it, IV. 14;—Nature, IV. 23, 29; a living being IV. 40; the Universal Nature, II. 16; what benefits it, benefits all, X. 6, 38; harmony of, V. 8; VI. 11; bound up with every part, V. 8, § 3; mystery of, V. 10; one, VII. 9; what it is, VIII. 52
 Unkindness to others; II. 16, VIII. 34; thwarting one another, II. 1
 Utopia (Plato's), IX. 29; impossible, V. 17; IX. 42

INDEX OF MATTERS

Value (*ἀξία*), due, set on things; III. 11; IV. 32; XI. 37 (Epictetus)

Venetianus, a partisan of the Blue Faction in the Circus, I. 5

Verus, Martius, 348 f., 351

Vice, V. 35; VII. 1, etc.

Victory, miraculous, 369

Vine, V. 6, § 1; VI. 14, 16; VIII. 19, 46; IX. 10

Violence defined, 364

Virtue, virtues, III. 6, § 1, 11, § 2; V. 5, 9, 12; IX. 42; XI. 1, § 2, 2; its own reward, V. 6; VII. 73, 74; IX. 42, § 5; XI. 4; fled to Olympus, V. 33; its motion, VI. 17; what it is, VI. 50

Vortex, or rotation, the external circumambient (*διάνη*), XII. 3; the soul a vortex (*ροῦθος*), II. 17 § 1

Walking barefoot, V. 8

War, success in, IV. 48; X. 10; distaste for, III. 3; VIII. 3; X. 9

Web of Fate, II. 3; III. 4, § 3, 11, 16; IV. 26, 34, 40; V. 8, § 3; VII. 57; X. 5

Wickedness must exist, IX. 42, § 3; XI. 18, § 1; XII. 16, § 2

Wild beasts, III. 2, § 2, 16; IV. 16; V. 1, 20; VI. 16

Wit, acuteness of, V. 5; VI. 47

Words, deeds, thoughts, superfluous, IV. 24

World, the, a city (*see Universe*), II. 16; III. 11; IV. 3, § 2, 4, 29; X. 15; XII. 36; bird's-eye view of, VII. 3, 48; IX. 30

Worth, (*see Value*), to be taken into account, XI. 37; XII. 1

Worthlessness of mundane things, II. 12

Wrestling, VII. 52, 61; *see also* pancratium=boxing and wrestling

Wrong-doing, due to lust and anger, II. 10; rests with the doer, V. 25; VII. 29; IX. 20, 38; XI. 13; doer harms himself, IV. 26; IX. 4, 38; involuntary, IV. 3, § 2; VII. 22, 63 (Plato); XI. 18, §§ 2, 3; done by others, VII. 22; VIII. 55; IX. 42; doer to be kindly admonished, X. 4; our own, X. 30; XI. 18, § 4

Zeus, V. 7, 8, §§ 2, 27; XI. 8; city of, IV. 23 = *νόμος*

Zonaras (*circa* 1100) following Suidas, quotes Marcus three times, each time from the first book.

II.—INDEX OF PROPER NAMES AND QUOTATIONS IN THE “THOUGHTS”

(*For other names see Index I.*)

- Aesculapius, prescribes to his votaries, v. 8; definite sphere of work, vi. 43
- Aesop, fable of, xi. 22, possibly taken from Horace
- Agrippa, war minister of Augustus, viii. 31
- Alciphron (? the Sophist and writer of fictitious new comedy letters), named as recently alive, x. 31
- Alexander, the Grammarian of Cotiaeum, teacher and tutor of Marcus, i. 10; the Platonist (“Clay-Plato”), Greek secretary to Marcus in 174, A.D., i. 12; the Great, iii. 3; vi. 24; viii. 3; ix. 29; x. 27
- Annia Cornificia, sister of Marcus, (*see Introd.* p. XIV.), i. 17, § 1
- Anonymous quotations, from unknown tragic writer, ana-paestic chorus, vii. 51; (?) senarius from unknown poet, i. 17 *ad. fin.*; ii. 7 *cp. Fragm. Ades* p. 516 Nauck; xi. 10, 30; (?) viii. 41; (?) from some drama, vii. 43, *cp. p. 379*; the old man and his foster-child’s top, v. 36; lines of poetical cast, iv. 34, 49; x. 16 § 2 line 5; xii. 3; running straight for the goal, iv. 18: sharp sight, viii. 38
- Antisthenes, the Cynic philosopher, quoted, vii. 36 (*see Diog. Laert.*, vi. 3)
- Antoninus Pius, i. 16, 17, § 3; iv. 33; vi. 30; viii. 25; ix. 21; x. 27; *cp. p. 386*
- Apollonius, Stoic philosopher of Chalcedon, i. 8; 17, § 5
- Archimedes, named among acute wits, vi. 47
- Areius, domestic philosopher to Augustus, viii. 31
- Aristophanes, quoted, vii. 42 (= *Ach. 661*), 66 (= *Nubes, 362*), iv. 23 (= *Frag.*)
- Asia, a corner of the world, vi. 36
- Athenians, prayer of, v. 7
- Athenodotus, disciple of Musonius and teacher of Fronto, i. 13
- Athos, a clod of the Universe, vi. 36
- Augustus, type of departed grandeur, iv. 33; viii. 5, 31; wife, sister and daughter of, alluded to, viii. 31
- Bacchelius, an unknown philosopher, i. 6
- Balae, health resort on the coast of Campania, XII. 27
- Benedicta, an imperial concubine, probably Hadrian’s, i. 17, § 6
- Benetianus (= Venetianus), *see Index I.*
- Brutus, named with Thrasea, Cato, etc., i. 14
- Cadicianus, unknown long-liver, iv. 50. Possibly corrupt for Caecilianus, as Gataker
- Caieta, i. 17, § 8. The supposed scene of Faustina’s debaucheries, Capit. xix. 7
- Caesar, Gaius, i.e. Julius Caesar, iii. 3; viii. 3; Caesars, x. 31
- Caeso, or Kaeso, iv. 33. K.

INDEX OF PROPER NAMES, ETC.

- Fabius Vibulanus killed with nearly the whole Fabian Gens at the Cremera, in 479
 Camillus, founder of the New Rome, IV. 33
 Capreae, an island off Campania, XII. 27. The supposed scene of Tiberius's debaucheries (*Tacitus*)
 Carnuntum, II. 17 *ad. fin.* The headquarters of Marcus in the German war (171-3, A.D., *Eutrop.* VIII. 18) near Vienna, now Hainburg
 Carpophorus, the Fruit-bearer,, i.e., the Earth (or Demeter), VI. 43
 Catullinus, Fabius, XII. 27. Perhaps the consul of 130 A.D.
 Catulus, Cinna, a Stoic philosopher, I. 13
 Cato, of Utica, I. 14; (?) the Censor, IV. 33, *cp.* Fronto, *ad Caes.*, II. 18; *Uni M. Porcio me dedicavi aique despondi atque delegavi* (Marcus aged 23)
 Cecrops, city of, (Athens) quotation from Aristophanes, IV. 23
 Celci, Caninius, a Greek rhetorician and Hadrian's secretary, VIII. 25; and one of the teachers of Marcus, *see Capit.*, II. 4
 Chabrias, a freedman or favourite of Hadrian, VIII. 37
 Chaldaeans (astrologers), III. 3
 Charax, unknown, mentioned for his acuteness, VIII. 25
 Christians, XI. 3. *See Index I.*
 Chrysippus, establisher of Stoicism, named with Socrates and Epictetus, VII. 19; on the function of ribald lines in a play, VI. 42 (quoted with disapproval); simile of cylinder (*Aul. Gell.*, VII. 2, 1), X. 33, § 2
 Cithaeron, (*Soph. Oed. Rex*, 1390), probably quoted from Epictetus, XI. 6
 Cleanthes, a possible reference to his great hymn to Zeus, X. 28
 Clotho, the Weaver of the Web of Fate, IV. 34
 Crates, a Theban Cynic, of caustic wit, quoted for a remark on Xenocrates (perhaps on $\tau\bar{\nu}\phi\sigma$), VI. 13; *cp. under Monimus*
- Crito, friend of Socrates and Xenophon, X. 31
 Croesus, type of departed grandeur, X. 27
- Demetrius, the Platonist (for whom, and not to his credit, *see Lucian, Calumn.* 16), VIII. 25. But Arethas refers to this passage in a note on *Lucian, De Salt.* 63, where the Demetrius spoken of is the Cynic, the friend of Thrasea (*cp. also, Lucian, Demon.* 3; *Adv. Ind.* 19). Consequently ὁ Πλατωνικός would seem to be an error for Κυνικός; of Phalerum, the distinguished orator, statesman, and philosopher of Athens, *circa* 300, IX. 29, but Schenkl obliterates ὁ Φαληρέύς
 Democrates, a Pythagorean philosopher, from whom is taken (so Prof. Schenkl in *loc.*) the quotation, "The Universe is transformation, and Life is opinion," IV. 3
 Democritus of Abdera, death, by lice, III. 3; "do not many things," IV. 24; "all things by law," VII. 31; atoms, VII. 31 (*see also under "Epicurus"*)
 Dentatus (Wyse's emendation for Δεοντάτος), conqueror of the Samnites and Pyrrhus, IV. 33
 Diogenes, the Cynic, mentioned with Heraclitus and Socrates, VIII. 3, as writer of plays, XI. 6
 Diogenetus, I. 6. Some connect him with the recipient of the Christian *Epistle to Diogenetus*
 Dion, I. 14, generally taken to be the Syracusan Dion. But Dion of Prusa was a truer philosopher and better man, and he matches better with Thrasea and Helvidius. Moreover, Arethas (?) twice quotes Marcus in notes to Dio (*see under "Arethas," Index I.*)
 Diotimus, a freedman or favourite of Hadrian, VIII. 25, 37
 Domitius (Dometius), I. 13. The Domitii were maternal (adoptive) ancestors of Marcus

INDEX OF PROPER NAMES, ETC.

Empedocles, quoted, "the sphere," XII. 3; (?) VIII. 41; ἀλοιωσίς, IV. 3; v. 15; IX. 19, 28
Epictetus, mentioned, VII. 19; his "Memorabilia," I. 7; "a little soul bearing a corpse" (Epict. *Frag.* 26), IV. 41; IX. 24; "words of ill-omen" (Epict. III. 24, 88, 89), XI. 34; looking for impossibilities (Epict. III. 24, 86, 87), XI. 33; "no man can rob us of our free will" (Epict. III. 22, 105), XI. 36; "O Cithaeron" (from Soph. *Oed. Rex* 1390, Epict. I. 24, 16), XI. 6; "the house is smoky and I quit it" (suicide, Epict. I. 25, 18), v. 29; "a soul deprived of truth only against its will" (Epict. I. 28, 4; II. 22, 37; *cp.* Plato *Rep.* III. 412), VII. 63; XI. 18, § 3; Socrates called the opinions of the many Lamiae (or μορμολυκέαι, Epict. II. 1, 15), XI. 28; change, illustrated from the grape (Epict. III. 24, 91-3), XI. 35; "'tis royal to do good and be abused" (Antisthenes, Epict. IV. 6, 20), VII. 36; rules of life (Epict. *Frag.* 27), XI. 37; *cp.* VIII. 7 *ad. init.*; "the question is about being mad or sane" (Epict. *Frag.* 28), XI. 38; elenchus on quarrelling (Socrates, (?) from Epictetus), XI. 39; life a drama, (Epict. *Man.* 17), XII. 36; Marcus plainly Epictetizes (Schol. to Codex D.), II. 1; *cp.* also v. 27

Epicurus, on intolerable pain, VII. 33, 64; account of his illness, IX. 41; atoms (*see also Democritus*), VI. 10 (so Schol. to Codex D.); VII. 33; IX. 28; "to think on great men," XI. 26 (by emendation Ἐπικουρεῖων for Ἐφεσίων)

Epitynchanus, possibly one of Hadrian's clientele, VIII. 25

Eudaemon, unknown, though named for ability, VIII. 25. Vitruvius (but the reading is not above suspicion) mentions a celebrated astrologer of this name

Eudoxus, mentioned with Hipparchus and Archimedes, vi. 47. He was renowned as astronomer, physician and geometer

Euphrates, mentioned as recently alive, X. 31. A Stoic philosopher much praised by Pliny (Ep. I. 10) who held that a philosopher should be a man of affairs, an administrator, and judge. Hadrian allowed him to commit suicide by drinking hemlock (Dio. 69, 8, § 2) in 118

Euripides, quotations from, Bellophon (*Frag.* 289 Dind.) VII. 38; XI. 6; Hypsipyle (*Frag.* 757 D.), VII. 40; XI. 6; Antiope (*Frag.* 207 D.), VII. 41; XI. 6; Chrysippus (*Frag.* 836 D.), VII. 50; Supplices (I. 1110), VII. 51; unknown plays (*Frag.* 890, 1007, Dind.), X. 21; VII. 42 or Aristophanes *q.v.*; XII. 26

Europe, a corner of the Universe, VI. 36

Eutyches, an unknown philosopher, of previous times, X. 31

Eutychion, an unknown philosopher of previous times, X. 31

Fabius, an unknown long-liver, IV. 50; **Fabius Catullinus**, a lover of the country, XII. 27. *See also Caeso*

Father, and grandfather of **Marcus**, *see Verus*

Faustina, wife of **Marcus**, I. 17, § 7; v. 31; (?) IX. 3; *see also pp.* 362, 365, 367

Faustina, wife of **Pius**, VIII. 25

[**Gnomologia**], anecdote of Socrates and Perdiccas (Archelaus) from (?), XI. 25

Granua, I. 17 *ad. fin.* The river Gran, near Buda-Pesth

Hadrian, as a type of departed grandeur, IV. 33; VIII. 5, 25, 37; X. 27. *See also under Benedicta, and p. 360*

Helvidius (Priscus), an upright but

INDEX OF PROPER NAMES, ETC.

- impracticable Stoic, who drove Vespasian to banish and put him to death, I. 14
- Hellice, a city of Achaea, swallowed by the sea 373 B.C., IV. 48
- Hellenes, the Ancient Greeks, III. 14
- Heraclitus, about 500 B.C. The Stoicks borrowed their ideas of Physics largely from him. Mentioned with Pythagoras, Socrates, and Diogenes, VI. 47; VIII. 3; manner of death, III. 3; theory of periodic conflagrations of the Universe, III. 3; X. 7; cycles of change, V. 13; IX. 28; XI. 1; flux of things, II. 17; IV. 3 *ad. fin.*, 36; V. 10, 15; VI. 4; VII. 19, 25; IX. 19; X. 7; simile of river, II. 17; IV. 43; V. 23; VI. 15; motion above and below, VI. 17; [VII. 1]; IX. 28; interchange of elements, IV. 46; the man that forgets his way, IV. 46; even sleepers seem to act and speak, IV. 46; VI. 42; "children from parents" or "what our fathers have told us," IV. 46; the soul "an exhalation from blood," V. 33; VI. 15; men at variance with the Reason of the Universe, IV. 46; what they "encounter" every day, they deem strange, IV. 46; "to think on great men" (? from Heracl.), XI. 26
- Herculaneum (Herclanum), destroyed 79 A.D., IV. 48
- Hesiod, quoted (*Opp.* 186), XI. 32; (*ibid.* 197), V. 33
- Hipparchus, a great mathematician and astronomer about 150 B.C., here mentioned with Archimedes and Eudoxus, VI. 47. Aur. Victor has a curious story (*De Caes.*, XLI. 20) of Marcus punishing the people of Nicaea (in Bithynia) for not knowing (the text here is doubted) that Hipparchus was born there
- Hippocrates (about 450 B.C.) III. 3. Till Galen the greatest of old-time physicians. A tree under which he is said to have taught still exists at Cos, his birthplace
- Homer, quoted (*Ili.* VI. 147-9), X. 34; (*ibid.*, VII. 99), VI. 10; (*Od.*, I. 242), IV. 33; (*ibid.*, IV. 890), V. 31; (*ibid.*, IX. 413), XI. 31; (? The *Nékyia*, *Od.* XI. but see *Menippus*.) IX. 24
- Hymen, an unknown philosopher of a previous age, X. 31
- Julianus, an unknown long-liver, IV. 50
- Lacedaemonians, *see* Spartans
- Lanuvium, on the Appian Way, where Pius was born, and had a villa, I. 16, § 8
- Leonnatus, IV. 33. One of Alexander's Generals, and quite out of place among Roman worthies, *see Dentatus*
- Lepidus, a lover of long-life, IV. 50. Possibly the triumvir
- Lorium, a villa of Pius on the Via Aurelia, where he died 7 March, 161, I. 16, § 8
- Lucilla, Domitia (Calvilla, *Capit.*), mother of Marcus, I. 17, § 1; V. 4, 13, 31; lessons learnt from her, I. 3; letter of Rusticus to, I. 7; early death of, I. 17, § 6; VIII. 25; life with, IX. 21. See also p. 360
- Lucian, possibly referred to in "*Menippus and others like him*," VI. 47
- Lupus, Lusius, unknown, possibly a mistake for L. Licinius Lucullus, the conqueror of Mithridates, whose luxurious gardens and villas were well-known, XII. 27
- Maeccenas, the minister of Augustus and friend of Horace, VIII. 31
- Marcianus, an unknown philosopher, I. 6. There was a notable physician of this name (Martianus) in the time of Marcus
- Maximus, Claudius, a Stoic philosopher and teacher, highly esteemed by Marcus, whom he thanks the Gods that he knew, I. 17, § 10; whose character he draws as that of a perfect man, I. 15; his illness, I. 16 *ad. fin.*;

INDEX OF PROPER NAMES, ETC.

- survived by his wife, VIII. 25; possibly consul *circa* 145, legatus of Pannonia 154 and proconsul of Africa *circa* 157; the *vir sanctissimus* of Apuleius
- Menander, quoted, in reference to the saying of Monimus, "all is vanity" (*Frag.* 249 Kock), II. 15; more luxury than comfort (*Frag.* 491 Kock), v. 12
- Menippus, mentioned as a mocker of man's life, VI. 47; his *Nekyia* possibly referred to, IX. 24. A Cynic and satirical writer, compatriot of Lucian, and often introduced by him into his works. The Scholiast (Arethas, *q.v.*) on Luc. *Pisc.* 26, refers to this passage of Marcus
- Monimus, a Cynic and pupil of Diogenes, quoted from Menander (*q.v.*), "all opinion is vanity," II. 15
- Nero, coupled with Phalaris, III. 16
- Origanion, unknown, lately dead, VI. 47
- Pantheia, the concubine of Lucius Verus, and mentioned as watching his tomb (urn). The writer of the dialogues *Imagines* and *Pro Imaginibus* (attributed to Lucian) speaks in very high terms of her beauty and character, VIII. 37
- Pergamus, a freedman or favourite of Lucius Verus, VIII. 37
- Perdiccas, king of Macedonia (probably a mistake for Archelaus) in connection with Socrates, XI. 25
- Phalaris, the typical tyrant, III. 16
- Phalereus, *see* Demetrius, IX. 29
- Philip, King of Macedonia, mentioned with Alexander and Demetrius of Phalerum, IX. 29; with Alexander and Croesus, X. 27
- Philistion, unknown, lately dead, VI. 47
- Phocion, the great Athenian, anecdote of (*cp.* Musonius Rufus, p. 55, ed. Hense), XI. 13
- Phoebus, unknown, lately dead, VI. 47
- Pindar, quoted (from Plato, *q.v.*), "the secrets of Hades," II. 13
- Plato, his Utopia, IX. 29; quotation (? dropped out) VII. 48: or, "the stars in their courses," "the mire of earthly life," VII. 47; Socrates on his trial (*Apol.* 28, B.D.), VII. 44, 45; Pindar quoted by (*Theaet.* 173 E.), II. 13; wise man in city like shepherd on the hills (*Theaet.* 174 D.), X. 23; goodness, and love of life (*Gorg.* ch. 68, 512 D.), VII. 46; death no evil, *Rep.* VI. 486 A., VII. 35; Socrates as the true philosopher (Plato, *Tim.* 61, D.), III. 6. *See also* p. 360
- [Plutarch], perhaps quoted, IV. 16; VII. 52; referred to, V. 1, § 2. *See also* under Sextus
- Pompeii, destroyed by Vesuvius, 79 A.D., IV. 48
- Pompeius, named with Caesar and Alexander, III. 8; VIII. 3; the *Gens Pompeia* has died out, VIII. 31
- Prasianus (Prasinus), a partisan of the Green Faction in the Circus I. 5; Lucius Verus, whose horse Flier (Volucris) was ridden under the Green colours, unfairly favoured the Greens, and on one occasion, while presiding at the games with Marcus, had a hostile reception from the spectators. *Capit. Vit. Ver.*, VI. 2
- Pythagoras, named with Heraclitus and Socrates, VI. 47; tenet quoted, "the stars in their courses," XI. 27
- Quadi, I. 17 *ad. fin.* A German tribe of the modern Moravia, who with the Marcomanni were the chief enemies of Marcus in the first war, 170–174. They nearly repeated the exploit of Arminius in the so-called "miraculous victory" in 174 (or, as Domaszewski, 171), pp. 369, 371
- Quotations from unknown authors, *see* Anonymous

INDEX OF PROPER NAMES, ETC.

- Rome, vi. 44
Rufus, *see* Velius
Rusticus, Stoic philosopher, teacher and intimate friend of Marcus, who, as *praefectus urbi*, condemned Justin to martyrdom; lessons learnt from him, self-discipline, contempt of dialectics, theoretic, rhetoric, poetry and fine writing, not to be a prig, to cultivate good taste, simplicity in letter-writing, sweet reasonableness, care in reading, suspicion of volubility, and a knowledge of Epictetus, I. 7, 17, § 4; M. sometimes offended with, I. 17, § 6
- Salaminian, the (Leo), Socrates sent by the Thirty Tyrants for, VII. 86
- Sarmatians, these appear as enemies about 174, A.D., X. 10. They were a Slav people from the present Poland and Russia. Their women fought.
- Satyrion, an unknown philosopher of recent time, X. 31
- Scipio, IV. 33
- Secunda, wife of Maximus, VIII. 25
- Severus, called "brother," I. 14; and so probably the father of Claudius Severus, who married one of Marcus' daughters (? Fadilla). But he seems to have been a philosopher and is possibly identical with the Peripatetic philosopher Severus (Capit. *Vit. Mar.*, III. 3), mentioned, x. 31. Marcus was himself at one time called Severus, Capit. I. 9, *cp.* Galen, VII. 478 Kühn
- Severus, Catilius, maternal great-grandfather of Marcus, who expected to succeed Hadrian, I. 4
- Sextus of Chaeronea, a Stoic philosopher, grandson of Plutarch, I. 9. Marcus made him his assessor on the bench (so Suidas) and attended his lectures late in life (Philost. *Vit. Soph.*, II. 9)
- Sextus Empiricus, of date uncertain but probably near the end of the 2nd century. He was an "empiric" physician and the great champion of Sceptical Philosophy, possibly quoted (*adv. Math.* IV. 81), VI. 14; "all is vanity" (from Monimus, *see also* Menander; Sext. Emp. II. 1), II. 15
- Silvanus, an unknown philosopher of a previous age, X. 31
- Sinuessa, a coast town on the border of Latium and Campania, letter of Rusticus from, I. 7
- Socrates, named with Heraclitus and Pythagoras and Diogenes, VI. 47; VIII. 3, with Chrysippus and Epictetus, VII. 19; public acts and character, VII. 66; conduct with Xanthippe, XI. 28; his self-control (? from Xenophon, *q.v.*), I. 16, *ad. fin.*; his trial, VII. 44, 45; killed by (human) vermin, III. 3; quoted (from Epictetus, *q.v.*) on the notions of the vulgar, XI. 23; (? from Epictetus, *q.v.*) on rational souls, XI. 39; (from Plato, *q.v.*) on a soul freed from sense-impressions, III. 6
- Socraticus, an unknown philosopher of previous times, X. 31
- Sophocles, quoted from Epictetus (*Oed. Rex*, 1391), XI. 6
- Spartans, courtesy to strangers, XI. 24
- Stertinius of Baiae, XII. 27. Possibly the rich physician of Naples, Pliny, *N.H.*, XXIX. 5
- Stoics, facts of the Universe unintelligible even to. v. 10
- Tandasis, an unknown philosopher, I. 6
- Telauges, son of Pythagoras and Theano (*see* Diog. Laert. *Pyth.* XXII. 26), VII. 66
- Theodotus, a freedman or minion of Hadrian (probably), I. 17, § 8
- Theophrastus, the successor of Aristotle in the Peripatetic Philosophy, quoted from with approval, "offences due to lust, and to anger," II. 10
- Thrasea, the noble Stoic put to death by Nero in 68. His last words were addressed to Demetrius the Cynic (for whom *see* on Demetrius), I. 14

INDEX OF PROPER NAMES, ETC.

- Tiberius, at Capreae, XII. 27
Trajan, an instance of past grandeur IV. 32
Tropaeophorus, unknown philosopher of a previous age, X. 31
Tusculum, now Frascati, in Latium, I. 16
- I. 17, § 4; VIII. 37. *See also* pp. 367, 387
- Volesus, or Volusus, undoubtedly P. Valerius Volusi filius Poplicola, the hero of the first years of the Republic, descended from the Sabine chief Volesus (Sil. Ital. II. 8), IV. 33
- Valerius, *see* Volesus
- Vellus Rufus, unknown, XII. 27
- Verus, M. Annius, grandfather of Marcus, I. 1; I. 17, § 1; IX. 21
- Verus, Annius, father of Marcus, I. 2, v. 4, 13, 31; VIII. 25; IX. 21
- Verus, Lucius Aurelius, adopted brother and son-in-law of Marcus,
- Xanthippe, the shrewish wife of Socrates, XI. 28
- Xenocrates, a Platonist philosopher from Chalcedon, VI. 13
see Crates
- Xenophon, perhaps quotation from (*Mem.* I. 3, 15), I. 16, § 9, X. 31

III.—GLOSSARY OF GREEK TERMS

ἀδιάφορα (=μέσα), v. 20; vi. 32, 41, 45; vii. 31; viii. 56; xi. 16: things indifferent, i.e. neither good nor bad = (1) things absolutely indifferent, such as the number of pebbles on the shore; (2) προηγένεα, things to be chosen as having a relative value, as good health; (3) ἀπροηγένεα, to be rejected, as of less relative value. *cp.* Fronto, *De Elog. Nab.* p. 143

ἀερώδες, τό, iv. 4, 21; viii. 54; ix. 9; x. 7, § 2. From a comparison of these we get τὸ στερέμινον = τὸ γεώδες (earth), τὸ υγρόν (water), τὸ πνευματικόν = τὸ αερώδες (x. 7, § 2, the spiritual or pneumatic into airy or aerial), τὸ πυρώδες (fire) = ? τὸ νερόν, *cp.* xi. 20

αιτία, τὸ αἰτιον, τὸ αἰτιώδες (see Seneca, *Ep.* 65), the Causal, Formal, or Formative Principle which makes a thing what it is, contrasted with ὅλη (matter), iv. 21; vi. 5; vii. 29; viii. 3, 11; xii. 8, 10, 18, 29; the Primary Cause, or Nature, or God, viii. 27; ix. 29; the Individual Cause in Man, viii. 7; ix. 31; x. 26; the Quality of the Cause, i.e. the power it has of making a thing what it is, ix. 25; absorbed into the λόγος of the Universe, vii. 10; Destiny, the primal Cause and sum of all lower causes, v. 8

ἀκατάληπτος, ἀκαταληψία, impossibility of any certain conviction, v. 10; vii. 54. It was the main position of the Sceptics that nothing could be really known,

but even Socrates and his successors said similar things. Epictetus stoutly maintains the contrary

ἀκινώνητος, one who selfishly disregards the common interests and cuts himself adrift from his fellows, ii. 1, 2; iii. 5; viii. 34; x. 6; xi. 18 *ad fin.*; xii. 23

ἀνιχφορά, the reference of a thing to its end or purpose, its relation to its objective, with Cause and Matter making up the whole thing, xii. 8, 10, 18, 20

ἀξία, (1) the true value or worth of things, (2) the relative value of things preferential, iii. 11; vi. 3, etc.

ἀπάθεια, the passionless calm of the true Stoic, i. 9 (of Sextus); vi. 16; xi. 18 *ad fin.*; *cp.* ἀταραξία

ἀπαξ λεγόμενα, words only found (it seems) in Marcus are: ἀκίβεντος i. 8; τάνδρονομεῖσθαι x. 19; ἀνθύλλιον iv. 20; ἀπαλλακτιῶν x. 36; ἀποκαστριῶσθαι vi. 30; ἀπορρέμβεσθαι iii. 4; iv. 22; ἀπροστάτητος xii. 14; ἀρεσκευτικός i. 16; ἀψιστολογήτως x. 9; ἀψικάρδιος ix. 3; γαλάκτιον v. 4; γλισχρεύεσθαι v. 5; γλώσσημα iv. 33; ἐμφιλοτεχνεῖν vii. 54; τινεργησεῖν iii. 7; ἐντέριον (?) vi. 13; τεύχαριεντίζεσθαι i. 15; καλοίθης i. 1; κοινονομοσύνη i. 16; μιύδιον vii. 3; μυξάριον iv. 48; vi. 13; ὀμοδογματεῖν ix. 3; xi. 8; ὄμοθαμνεῖν xi. 8; παραζύγειν xii. 5; περίφορος i. 15; προπτωτικός xi. 10; προσρήσσεσθαι iv. 49; ριππαστικός i. 16; σεμνοτυφία ix. 29; σμαράγδιον iv. 20; στρωμάτιον

GLOSSARY OF GREEK TERMS

V. 1; συγκατατίκεσθαι **V. 1;** συμμηρύεσθαι **III. 11;** **VIII. 23;** συμμήρυσις **IV. 40;** συμπεριφαντάζεσθαι **X. 38;** συμπροσπίπτειν **VII. 22;** **X. 31;** **XII. 27;** συνεμφέρειν **III. 4;** συννήθειν (?) **IV. 34;** τριγερῆτος, **IV. 50;** ὑπέρτασις, **X. 8;** φαντασιοπλήκτως, **I. 7;** χυλάριον **VI. 13.**

ἀπροαιρέτα, things not in our choice or power, **XII. 3, 23, 33.**

ἀρχαὶ, Zeno recognized θεός (τὸ ποιῶν) and ὑλη (τὸ πάσχον) as ἀρχαὶ or Beginnings

ἀταραξία (cp. ἀπάθεια) **IX. 31,** freedom from perturbation at external things

ἄτομοι, **IV. 3; VI. 24; VII. 32, 50; VIII. 17; IX. 28, 39; X. 6; XI. 18.** Indivisible atoms endowed with motion were, according to Democritus, and after him Epicurus and Lucretius, the origin of all things without any First Cause. Marcus often puts this view, but only to reject it

ἀφορμή = means. Marcus does not use the word in its Stoic sense of "disinclination" Χ ὄρμῃ

δαίμων, evil spirit, **I. 6;** good, **X. 13;** = εὐδαιμονία, **VII. 17;** the "genius" or "daemon" within us, **II. 13, 17; III. 6, 7, 12, 16; VIII. 45; XII. 3;** given by Zeus to us, **V. 27;** = θεός, **V. 10;** = νοῦς, **III. 3.**

διάλυσις, **VII. 50,** etc.; a breaking up of things into their component parts, and the subsequent sifting out of these into the elements διάνοια, faculty of thought, or mind, **III. 1;** = λογική ψυχή, **VI. 32;** not affected by the motions of the πνεῦμα, **IV. 3.**

διαπνεῖσθαι, to breathe through the veins and arteries, a medical theory (see Gataker *in loc.* for illustrations from Galen), **III. 1; VI. 16.**

δόγμα, a postulate, axiom, or principle established by reason and experience; what the sensations are to the body and impulses to the soul, δόγματα are to the intelligence, **III. 16;** called "sacred," **X. 9.** See κρίμα and θεώρημα

εἶδος, only used once (**XI. 20**) in its philosophical sense of "general term," "class," or "species" εἰμαρμένη, ἡ, destiny, **III. 6;** **V. 8, etc.;** = Clotho, **IV. 34;** τὰ συγκλωθόμενα, **III. 4, 11, 16;** **IV. 26;** ἡ πεπρωμένη, **III. 8;** τὸ συμβαῖνον, **IV. 44 etc.**

ἐκκλισίς, avoidance) (σρεξίς (q.v.), **VIII. 7; XI. 37.** The things that are "within the man" are κρίσις judgment, ὄρμη impulse, σρεξίς propensity towards, ἐκκλισίς aversion from, a thing, **VIII. 28;** but the latter must be reserved only for things in our power, **VIII. 7; XI. 37.**

ἐκπύρωσις, cyclical conflagration of the Universe, a doctrine of Heraclitus (q.v.), **III. 3.** Justin *Apol.* II. 7 points out the difference between the Stoic and Christian view of this conflagration (2 St. Peter iii. 7, 10)

ἐννοία, conception, thought, or notion not amounting to a conviction (δόγμα), but κοινὴ ἐννοία = φαντασία καταληπτική, a conclusive conviction. See πρόληψις

ἐξαγωγή = suicide does not occur, but see **III. 1** (ἰξακτέον)

ἔξι, **VI. 14; VII. 16; XI. 18; XII. 16.** Lucian, *Conviv.* 23, says, τι διαφέρει σχέσις ἔξεως; and in *Hermot.* 81 he laughs at the jargon of philosophy with its ἔξεις and σχέσεις, its καταλήψεις and φαντασίαι. Σχέσις, feature; ἔξεις, a simple essential form or quality (ποιότης); φύσις, a forming power, **VI. 14.**

εὐδαιμονία, harmony of man's will (δάιμον) with God's = εὐραια βίον, **VII. 17.**

εὔρους, εὐροεῖν (εὐροια, Epict. I. 4. 6), the calm even flow of the virtuous life = εὐδεῖν, **V. 34;** **X. 6;** even of Zeus himself, **V. 8;** εὔρουν καὶ θεοῦδη βίον, **II. 5.**

ἐνέργεια, the activity of the ψυχή contrasted with πεῖσις (q.v.) = the passivity of the body, **V. 20,** etc.

ἡγεμονικόν, τό (ορ τὸ κυριεῦον, τὸ προαιρετικόν, **VIII. 56**), the Ruling

GLOSSARY OF GREEK TERMS

Reason (*q.v.*) or **Principle** (or **Inner Self**, *Rendall*), II. 2; IV. 1; V. 26; XII. 14, etc. = λόγος, φύσις, or even τέχνη λογική, V. 4; VIII. 7 (*cp.* ψυχή, V. 32); διάνοια, VII. 64, 68; νοῦς, IX. 22; III. 16; X. 24; XII. 3; sometimes even of God, VII. 75; IX. 22

θεωρήμα, a truth perceived in Science, I. 7, § 4, 8; IV. 2; in Ethics = δόγμα, a principle or conviction; τὸ θεωρητικόν, the faculty of pure thought, X. 9; p. 375

καθῆκον, τὸ = *officium*, duty. Among τὰ καθήκοντα, duty in the highest sense perfectly performed, is κατόρθωσις, V. 14, are acts that are the outcome of right reason

κατάληψις, VI. 30 (καταλαμβάνειν, καταληπτικός (IX. 6), ἀκατάληπτος); an important term in the Stoic philosophy meaning a "true comprehension" or "clear perception" of a thing, without which no right conduct in life is possible. *See under συγκατάθεσις*

κατόρθωσις, *see καθῆκον*

κίνησις, motion = change, V. 10; in the flesh (Epicurus), IX. 41; of the senses, VIII. 26; of the flesh (smooth or rough), X. 8; to anger, fear, etc., XI. 20; of the mind, VII. 55; of virtue, VI. 17; (σχέσις, VII. 60; XI. 2; tension (τόνος), VI. 38

κοινὸς and its kindred words occur over eighty times, and Marcus apparently coins the beautiful word κοινονομοσύνη (I. 16), which deserves to rank with the "loving-kindness" of Coverdale's Bible.

See under Fellowship

κρίμα, conviction, almost = δόγμα, IV. 3, § 2; judgment, V. 19; VIII. 47; XI. 11; *cp.* κρίσις, VI. 52, etc., the antecedent to ὄρμη, VIII. 16, 28; of the Christians, XI. 3; = ὑπόληψις (φαντασία), XI. 16, 18, § 7

λόγος (λογικός), reason or the reason, I. 8; II. 10; IV. 13, 16, 19, 24, 30, 33; V. 8, 9, 14, 28; VI. 23, 30; VII. 8, 11, 24; VIII. 48; IX. 10, 42; X. 31, 32 (νοῦς καὶ λ.); right reason, (= virtue, *Cic. Tusc.* iv. 15. 34), III. 6, 12; XI. 9; XII. 35; civic reason, IV. 29; IX. 12; common to Gods and men, VII. 53; λ. of Nature, IV. 29; V. 32; VI. 58; VII. 10; common to all intelligent creatures, IV. 4; VII. 9; = a man's self (*τὸ ἡγεμονικόν*, *q.v.*), VIII. 40; convincing reason II. 5; IV. 24; σπερματικοί λόγοι, of the Universe into which all things are taken back = seminal principles, IV. 14, 21; VI. 24; = λόγος only, VII. 10; X. 7; λογικός, applied to ζῷον, ἡγεμονικόν, τέχνη, φύσις, ψυχή

οἰησις, self-conceit or illusion, IV. 12; IX. 34; XII. 27

οἰκονομία, IV. 19, 51; XI. 18, § 5; management, and so policy, expediency, adaptation to circumstances, ulterior end, secondary purpose, and even *finesse*. We keep the double sense of the word in our "economy of truth"

ὄρεξις, propension or inclination towards a thing, of which the result is ὄρμη and the incentive φαντασία, IX. 7; *cp.* VIII. 28.) (ἐκκλισία, VIII. 7. *See under πάθος*

ὄρμη = φορὰ ψυχῆς ἐπὶ τῷ (Stob. Ecl. ii. 160), impulse of the mind towards a thing (*see ὄρεξις*), resulting in a πάθος

ὅσιότης = δικαιοσύνη πρὸς θεόν, piety, sanctity, holiness

οὐσία, Substance or Being, sometimes = ὑλή, matter;) (ψυχή, IV. 40

πάθος, the "affect" resulting through πεῖσις from ὄρμη, the second stage of ὄρεξις, which depends itself on assent (συγκατάθεσις). Stobaeus defines it (*Ecl.* II. 164) as a motion of the Soul contrary to Nature; παθολογεῖν. VIII. 13, to study the πάθη = Ethics

GLOSSARY OF GREEK TERMS

παλιγγενεσία, XI. 1; *cp.* VII. 19. The Stoic theory was that everything repeated itself in periodic cycles, when the world was renewed again after each conflagration (*see ἐκπίρωσις and under Heraclitus*); *cp.* Chrysippus, *περὶ προνοίας*, "there will be another Socrates to live the same life again"; and Seneca, *Ep.* 36. 10, "veniet iterum qui nos in lucem reponat dies." But whether Marcus believed in this dismal theory is very doubtful, *cp.* X. 31.

παράταξις, opposed line in battle, so opposition, not obstinacy (XI. 3; III. 3; VIII. 48). *See also p. 381.*

πείσις χ' ἐνέργεια, V. 1, a passive condition antecedent to a κίνησις in the case of the body, corresponding to an ἐνέργεια of the mind, III. 6; V. 26; VI. 51; VII. 55; IX. 16

περίοδος, V. 13, 32; X. 7. *See παλιγγενεσία*

πνεῦμα = ἄνεμος, II. 2; the surrounding air, IX. 2; the inferior part of the ψυχὴ as distinct from νοῦς, IV. 3; it and its motion quite distinct from the δάνοια, IV. 3. Marcus does not seem to use the word in the sense of Atmospheric Current unless XII. 30 affords an instance.

πνεύματα, what remains of things when οὐσία, ψυχὴ, and νοερὰ ψυχὴ are subtracted, XII. 30

πνευματικόν. *Tó* the Soul (= τὸ πνευμάτιον) of which the πνεῦμα or breath element at death goes back into τὸ ἀερόδες, and the νοῦς into τὸ πυρώδες, IV. 4; X. 7; XI. 20 πνευμάτιον, *tó* = (1) ψυχὴ (Soul) in its lower sense (σῶμα, πνευμάτιον, νοῦς, XII. 14) II. 2; VIII. 56; IX. 36; XII. 3, 14; (2) ψυχὴ in its higher sense, including the νοῦς, V. 26, 33; VI. 14; IX. 8, 34; XII. 30; the enveloping body and the πνευμάτιον that has grown with its growth, XII. 3; the vital breath which will be quenched or transferred elsewhere, VIII. 25; the sphere of it and the body

outside our power, V. 33; unstable like all matter, IX. 36; burdened with the body, IX. 24. *See under ψύχωσις*

ποιότης, τὸ ποιόν, the property, quality, or form of a thing (almost = the Cause which makes it what it is, IX. 25); τὸ ιδίως ποιόν, separate individuality, VI. 3; IX. 25; X. 7; XII. 30

πολιτικός, mostly = κοινωνικός. *See κοινός*

προαιρέσις, free will or choice. *See under ἀπροαιρέτα*

προαιρετικόν, τό (= τὸ ἡγεμονικόν), the faculty of choice, VIII. 56

προηγούμενον, τό, the leading or cardinal thing, VII. 55; VIII. 49; IX. 41. Marcus does not use the Stoic expression τὰ προηγμένα things preferential

πρόληψις = a primary conception possessed by all rational beings, Chrysippus in Diog. Laert. VII. 53 (ἔννοια φυσική τῶν καθ' ὅλου). Perceptions (φαντασίαι) resulting from sensation (αἰσθησίς) produce impressions (τυπώσεις) which repeated form memory and many memories make experience which gives us conceptions (προλήψεις)

σκεδασμός, σκορπισμός (*cp.* διάλυσις), a disintegration of things into their component atoms (VI. 24; VII. 32; VIII. 25) or elements. *See under Dispersion and Dissolution*

σκοπός (or τέλος, V. 15, 16), the end or objective of life, II. 16; VII. 4; XI. 6, 21; to which every ὄρμη and φαντασία should be directed, II. 7. *See under Aim, Objective*

σπερματικὸς λόγος (*see under λόγος*), IV. 14, 21; VI. 24; IX. 1 *ad fin.* = the Generative Reason, because the Primary Fire or Reason contains in it the Germs of all things. The σπερμ. λόγοι are the creative and forming forces in Nature which have produced (1) the Universe as a whole, and (2) individual things individually. Justin, *Apol.* II. 8, 13, applies the Stoic term to Christ

GLOSSARY OF GREEK TERMS

στοιχεῖα, τά, the elements, earth, water, air, fire, II. 3, 17; VI. 17; IV. 4; X. 7; XI. 20, etc.; almost = atoms, VI. 17; VII. 31

συγκατάθεσις, the full mental assent required for a convincing impression (*φαντασία καταληπτική*) before convictions (*δόγματα*) can be translated into movement and action, but even this is liable to error, v. 10. *See under πάθος*

σύγκριμα, συγκριμάτων, the compound—man, VII. 67; VIII. 25; XI. 20; composite things (τὰ στοιχεῖα, II. 3; VI. 10 = κυκεών, the 'farrago of things'; σύγκρισις ή λύσις, XII. 24, 36; the elements comprising the σῶμα, II. 17)

συμπάθεια, sympathetic connexion or affinity of the parts in an organic whole, v. 26; IX. 9, § 3; mutual interdependence, IV. 27

συνείδησις, It is curious that Marcus never uses this Stoic equivalent for 'Conscience,' but *see εὐσυνείδητος*, VI. 30 *ad fin.*

σύντημα, an organized body, or organism, the parts of which have a relation to one another

σχέσις, a non-essential quality or feature of a thing, ή κίνησις = rest (Rendall), VII. 60; XI. 2; attitude or relation towards other things, I. 12; VI. 38; VIII. 27; XI. 18. Three *σχέσεις*, (1) towards the body, (2) towards God, (3) towards our neighbour, VIII. 27. *See under ἔξις, κίνησις*

σῶμα, τὸ [σωμάτιον, σάρξ, σαρκία (plur.), σαρκίδιον, κρεάδιον] a compound of τὸ γεώδες and τὸ ὑγρόν, together forming τὸ στερέωντον, IV. 4; X. 7; the vessel or sheath of Soul, III. 3; VIII. 27; IX. 3; that which overlays the Soul, XII. 2, 3

τέλος, *see σκοπός*
τόνος (τονικός) = tension imparted to soul by atmospheric substance therein existing (Zeller), the cause of virtues and vices. Zeller also says that the Stoics imagined two sorts of motion, the one (= our

Repulsion) tending outwards and giving rise to the qualities of matter, the other (our *Attraction*) tending inwards and causing condensation. Cleanthes calls τόνος a πληγὴ πυρός

ϋλη, τὸ ὄλικόν, matter on which the *αἴτιον* (q.v.) acts

ὑποκείμενον, τό (or plural), matter not in its primary condition but as formed by the *αἴτιον*, VII. 29; ἡ ὑποκείμενη ϋλη, IX. 36; all material things and objects, V. 10; VI. 4, 23; VIII. 22, 24; IX. 3; X. 18
ὑπεξάρεσις, IV. 1; V. 20; VI. 50; XI. 37, exception or reservation; *cp.* "sapiens ad omnia cum exceptione (μεθ' ὑπεξαρέσεως) veniet, si nihil inciderit, quod impedit" (Seneca, *De Benef.* iv. 34)

ὑπόληψις, opinion, imagination; all things are merely what we think them to be, II. 15; IV. 3, *ad fin.*; XII. 8, 26; away with opinion! IV. 7; VIII. 40; XI. 18, § 7; XII. 22, 25; leave the fact as it is and add no opinion to it, v. 26; hold the power of forming opinions sacred, III. 9; a ὑπόλ. καταληπτική (q.v.) amounts to a truth, IX. 6. *See under φαντασία and κρίσις*
ὑπόστασις, substance, IX. 1 *ad fin.* subsistence, IX. 42; X. 5

φαντασία, impression, thought, notion; don't go beyond first impressions, VIII. 49; they dye or stamp the soul, v. 16; VI. 16; sift them, VIII. 26; appraise them aright, v. 36; *φαντασία καταληπτική*, irresistible impression that carries assent, IV. 22; VII. 54; wipe it out, IV. 24; V. 2; VII. 17, 29; VIII. 29; IX. 7. *See under ὑπόληψις and κρίσις*

φυσιολογεῖν, VIII. 13 = Physics; *cp.* IX. 41; X. 9; so of the physiological disquisitions of Heraclitus, III. 3; *cp.* IX. 41 (from Epicurus).

ψυχή, ψυχάριον, Man = σῶμα, ψυχή, νοῦς, III. 16; but the Soul (ψυχῆ) twofold, (α) = πνευμάτιον (πνεῦμα),

GLOSSARY OF GREEK TERMS

an exhalation from blood (*ἀναθυμίασις*, v. 33, vi. 15), and an inhalation (*ἀνάπνευσις*) from the air; (b) *ἡ νοερά, λογική*, vi. 14, 32; ix. 8; xi. 1; xii. 30; *ψυχή* = *τὸ θερμονικόν*, i. 16 *ad fin.*; iv. 41; v. 28; ix. 8, 27, 34; an emanation from God, xii. 26; imprisoned in the body, iii. 7; *cp.* Int. p. xiv. The natural soul is called *ρομβός*, a vortex or current, ii. 17, § 1; the rational soul a sphere, xi. 12; its attributes, xi. 1, § 2. There is a Soul

of the Universe, xii. 30, 32, and of God, v. 34, the two being really the same *ψύχωσις*. It was a view of the Stoics that the embryo in the womb had only the *φυσικὴ ψυχὴ* of plants, and that the *νοερὰ ψυχὴ* came gradually to the child after birth by contact with the (cold) air, xii. 24. It was by the respiration of the atmospheric *πνεῦμα* that the child received the *πνευμάτιον*, vi. 15; x. 7

MAR 5 - 1935

**PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN BY
RICHARD CLAY AND SONS, LIMITED,
BRUNSWICK STREET, STAMFORD STREET, S.E.,
AND BUNGAY, SUFFOLK.**

LOEB CLASSICAL LIBRARY

VOLUMES ALREADY PUBLISHED.

Latin Authors.

- APULEIUS. The Golden Ass. (Metamorphoses.)
W. Adlington (1566). Revised by S. Gaselee. 1 Vol.
- CÆSAR : CIVIL WARS. Trans. by A. G. Peskett.
1 Vol.
- CATULLUS. Trans. by F. W. Cornish; TIBILLUS.
Trans. by J. P. Postgate; PERVIGILIUM VENE-
RIS. Trans. by J. W. Mackail. 1 Vol.
- CICERO : DE FINIBUS. Trans. by H. Rackham.
1 Vol.
- CICERO : DE OFFICIIS. Trans. by Walter Miller.
1 Vol.
- CICERO : LETTERS TO ATTICUS. Trans. by E. O.
Winstedt. Vols. I and II.
- CONFessions OF ST. AUGUSTINE. Trans. by W.
Watts (1631). 2 Vols.
- HORACE : ODES AND EPODES. Trans. by C. E.
Bennett. 1 Vol.
- OVID : HEROIDES AND AMORES. Trans. by Grant
Showerman. 1 Vol.
- PETRONIUS. Trans. by M. Heseltine; SENECA :
APOCOLOCYNTOSIS. Trans. by W. H. D. Rouse.
1 Vol.
- PLINY. LETTERS. Melmoth's Translation revised by
W. M. L. Hutchinson. 2 Vols.
- PROPERTIUS. Trans. by H. E. Butler. 1 Vol.
- SUETONIUS. Trans. by J. C. Rolfe. 2 Vols.
- TACITUS : DIALOGUS. Trans. by Sir Wm. Peterson;
AGRICOLA AND GERMANIA. Trans. by Maurice
Hutton. 1 Vol.
- TERENCE. Trans. by John Sargeaunt. 2 Vols.

LOEB CLASSICAL LIBRARY—(contd.)

Greek Authors.

- APOLLONIUS RHODIUS. Trans. by R. C. Seaton.
1 Vol.
- THE APOSTOLIC FATHERS. Trans. by Kirsopp Lake.
2 Vols.
- APPIAN'S ROMAN HISTORY. Trans. by Horace White.
4 Vols.
- DIO CASSIUS: ROMAN HISTORY. Trans. by E. Cary.
Vols. I, II, and III.
- EURIPIDES. Trans. by A. S. Way. 4 Vols.
- THE GREEK BUCOLIC POETS (THEOCRITUS, BION, MOSCHUS). Trans. by J. M. Edmonds. 1 Vol.
- HESIOD AND THE HOMERIC HYMNS. Trans. by H. G. Evelyn-White. 1 Vol.
- JULIAN. Trans. by Wilmer Cave Wright. Vols. I and II.
- LUCIAN. Trans. by A. M. Harmon. Vols. I and II.
- PHILOSTRATUS: THE LIFE OF APOLLONIUS OF TYANA. Trans. by F. C. Conybeare. 2 Vols.
- PINDAR. Trans. by Sir J. E. Sandys. 1 Vol.
- PLATO: EUTHYPHRO, APOLOGY, CRITO, PHÆDO, PHÆDRUS. Trans. by H. N. Fowler. 1 Vol.
- PLUTARCH: THE PARALLEL LIVES. Trans. by B. Perrin. Vols. I and II.
- PROCOPIUS. Trans. by H. B. Dewing. Vol. I.
- QUINTUS SMYRNÆUS. Trans. by A. S. Way. 1 Vol.
- SOPHOCLES. Trans. by F. Storr. 2 Vols.
- ST. JOHN DAMASCENE: BARLAAM AND IOASAPH. Trans. by the Rev. G. R. Woodward and Harold Mattingly. 1 Vol.
- XENOPHON: CYROPÆDIA. Trans. by Walter Miller.
2 Vols.
- DESCRIPTIVE PROSPECTUS ON APPLICATION.***
-
- LONDON: WILLIAM HEINEMANN.
NEW YORK: G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS.

Google

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



3 9015 01536 5854

REF 1633

**DO NOT REMOVE
OR
MUTILATE CARD**

